

MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN



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MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN

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 Correspondence from particular farmers, giving the results of their experience, is solicited. Letters should be signed with the writer's real name, in full, which will be printed or not, as the writer may wish.
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AGRICULTURAL.

GRAPES prosper in the hen yard, if trained high.

FOUR pounds of clover will make one pound of rich vegetable mold.

Sow plenty of clover with the grass seed. Under right conditions it will endure many seasons.

When the chain pump catches and bothers, the chain is probably too loose. Take out a link or two.

To mend a lead pipe without turning off the water, pack it with salt and rice. After a section has frozen a new piece can be soldered to the broken ends.

EVERGREENS can be successfully transplanted in summer. Get all the fine roots possible and after setting, settle the earth with several pails of water.

CREAM nearly spoiled by the odor of cabbage fed to the cattle may be renovated by heating to a temperature of 155° for about ten minutes. The heat seems to drive off the cabbage smell.

YOUNG canker worms are very thick in some orchards this year. One pound of Paris green to two hundred gallons of water will settle them, although it is too late now to prevent a good deal of injury being done.

FAIRLY early grafting is best, but if some of the early grafts failed to take, the stub can be sawed again and re-grafted now, provided you have scions which were cut early. But don't give up the graft too soon, they often start very slowly.

To find the number of trees or plants to the acre, multiply the distance in feet between the rows by the distance trees are apart in rows; the product will be the number of square feet for each tree, which, divided into the number of square feet in an acre (43,560), will give the number of trees to the acre.

Box Experiments With Phosphates.

The Maine Station has just issued Bulletin No. 34, which briefly summarizes the results of these experiments and deduces some practical conclusions. The investigation is still in progress and further reports will be made from time to time. The chief points brought out in the present Bulletin are:

Plants differ in their ability to feed upon crude phosphates.

Turnips and ruta bagas gave nearly as good returns with the Florida rock as with the dissolved rock.

In nearly every other case the best results were obtained by the use of the dissolved rock.

Barley and corn appear to require an acid phosphate.

Except with the barley, corn, turnip roots and potato tubers, the crude Florida rock yielded better returns than the phosphate of iron and alumina.

When early maturity is desired, the acid phosphate can profitably be used.

The solubility of a phosphate in ammonium citrate is not always the correct measure of its actual value to the plant.

Milk, Clover, Ensilage.

THE CORNERSTONES OF THIS 300-ACRE FARM.

The farm of C. S. Stillman in South Natick contains 300 acres, only a small proportion of which is used for tillage. Milk is the money crop on this farm. There are nineteen cows; grades with traces of Holstein blood. Last year, according to the superintendent, Geo. C. Bragdon, milk to the amount of \$1400 was sold from these nineteen cows and a liberal amount also of milk and cream was used by the family. The price obtained was 25 cents per 8 1-2 quart can, they having been carted by the purchaser and sold direct to milkmen. The saving in freight and in contractors' profits enabled the buyer to pay a little more than could have been obtained net from the contractors.

FEEDING FOR MILK.

The excellent production of milk is obtained by corn ensilage, clover hay and grain.

The silo is a building by itself, quite a distance from the barn. It is 18 feet square and 23 feet deep, built of wood with two layers of paper between, affording no especial novelty in structure. The cattle get a rather liberal feed; 38 to 40 pounds per day, farm ensilage, also plenty of clover hay and a large ration of corn and cob meal, cottonseed meal and shorts.

The corn and cob meal is a home product made from a field of northern corn grown upon the farm. This year, however, owing to the low price of grain, Mr. Stillman will give up trying to raise his own corn meal and will put the corn crop into the silo, ears and all, thus saving the cost of husking, grinding, etc. As upon most large farms nowadays, the corn is cultivated by horse power and no hand hoeing is done. The hayfields are a noticeable feature of the farm because of their fine appearance and because of the large proportion of clover.

CLOVER.

Superintendent Bragdon believes in clover and sows it freely, using 12 pounds of clover with a bushel of red top and a little of other grasses to the acre. He believes that August is the proper time to sow. Clover sown then, he says, a good start by winter and produces a good crop the next season. The second season the hay will also be largely clover and even the third year there will be a considerable mixture of clover hay. One large field two years planted still appears to be largely clover. It is a fine looking piece, thickset and vigorous, and the crop is likely to be large.

Potatoes are grown successfully upon fertilizer alone, 1000 pounds to the acre. Mr. Bragdon finds the old Rose and Hebron better than any of the new kinds which he has tried.

BOARDING HORSES.

Not far from the Stillman farm is located the horse boarding farm of the Hopewell Brothers. This farm is managed by Mr. A. Bucklin.

Last winter 37 horses were taken in charge; the usual number is larger than that. The price received was \$2.50 per week, and, at that figure, Superintendent Bucklin says it pays better than the milk producing branch of the business.

With cattle, extra help is needed to do the milking, but with horses one man can do all the work, which consists mostly of feeding, exercising and of cleaning the stalls. For exercising a circular building, enclosing a ring, is used. The horse is taken there every day. The keeper stands at the centre and drives the horse rapidly around the circumference for fifteen minutes. As soon as one horse has been exercised, the assistant brings another to the door and the work is quickly done. The horses are given four quarts of shorts and two of corn meal daily besides English hay. It is thought unnecessary to card the horses much until ready to be returned. The above plan keeps the animals in healthy appearance, ready to do good service on the road when their owners take them again.

Our orchard grass early and its strong roots will quickly send up a good second growth. This peculiarity is one of its best points.



COTSWOLD EWES.

Plenty of Green Food.

Just as surely as the days roll round, there will come a time this season when the pastures will begin to fail and the rich juice of spring and early summer pass away. Then the flow of milk will be shortened and the dairyman's source of revenue will be greatly curtailed, unless he make some provision to supplement the grass of his pastures. The extent of this failure which takes place in the pastures will, of course, depend in great part upon the rain supply. The more deficient the fall, the more severe will be the shortage in grass.

Now is the time to look out for crops to piece out the pastures; and what a change has come over the spirit of our dreams in this respect within the last few years. It is not so long ago that most of us remember it that most men laughed at the thought of feeding their cows in the summer or fall. Once they had turned their herds out to grass, they expected them to take care of themselves until it was time to put them in for winter. The result was that early in the season the milk supply was cut off, for once the cow dried up there was no way of bringing her up again. All this is changing. Not all men have adopted the plan of putting in some crop for summer use, but most men who have their own best interests at heart have.

Probably corn stands at the head as a soiling crop. It is richer in butter making elements than any similar plant. Then, every dairyman should have a piece of corn. As it is a very exhaustive crop, the land upon which it is to be grown should be well manured. We used to sow corn intended for the purpose indicated broadcast; now it seems settled that it is better to plant it in rows three feet apart, so that it may be cultivated. Thus planted, numerous ears will grow upon the stalks and far more goodness be secured. Begin feeding this early. For some years I have commenced cutting corn for green feed in August.

Even earlier than corn, a spot devoted to oats or oats and peas will yield a bountiful supply of green fodder. The effect of this generous feeding may be seen very speedily in the milk pail and the churn.

Who says all this does not involve labor? I do not deny it; but shall we expect to receive something for nothing? The time has gone by, if it ever was, when we could trust old mother nature to do her part and ours too in the production of great crops and fabulous returns for a small outlay of labor. If we get anything out of the meal-tub we must put something in. Just now is the time to prepare for the time of need which will surely come later in the year. He is wise who admits this and acts upon it.

E. I. VINCENT.

Broome Co., N. Y.
 I do not believe that the value of the manure produced by cows fed liberally will be overestimated by placing it at five cents a day, and I would recommend that the cows be credited for this amount.—Prof. W. A. Henry.

Millets, Vegetables and Fertilizer.

ED. MASS. PLOUGHMAN: DEAR SIR:—I am no farmer, but am thinking of becoming one, and would like to ask you a few questions. How many tons of millet can be raised on an acre of land, that is, in a condition to cut three-fourths of a ton of hay to the acre, of either the Japanese or American variety, and when should it be sowed and will stock eat it made into hay, and how much fertilizer should be put on to the acre, of "Bradley's" or "Bowker's," and if they would be as good as barnyard manure? And also if fertilizers would do to put on to land to raise squash, and how much per acre, and if it works well to put on to grass land? F. O. MORSE, East Boston, Mass., April 25, 1897.

[Japanese barnyard millet produced at the Amherst station, upon half an acre, at the rate of nearly four tons of hay per acre, while Hungarian millet produced at the rate of about two and three-fifths tons per acre. This was upon heavy loam well enriched with chemical fertilizers. Your soil is probably not in condition to do as well, even with high manuring. Sow three pecks to the acre of Hungarian, half that quantity of Japanese barnyard millet. About the first of June is the best time to sow. Yes; cattle are fond of millet hay, but it is considered not very good for horses. Use 800 pounds of fertilizer. The fertilizer would produce more than the same value expended in manure at market prices, with cost of hauling added. That is, unless your farm is near a large city. Before buying fertilizer, be sure that your stock is fed liberally so as to produce as much rich manure on the farm as possible.

Good crops of squashes have been grown upon fertilizers alone. For large results, use a heavy dressing, working it well into the hill. Apply 1500 to 2000 pounds for the best results.

For seeding down grassland it is considered better to use what manure you have, and to reserve other crops for fertilizer.

For top dressing it will pay to use fertilizer on pieces in good heart, not too long seeded and which are naturally adapted for grass.—Ed.]

How Much Salt.

ED. MASS. PLOUGHMAN: DEAR SIR:—Will you please ask your subscribers interested in dairy work how much salt they allow to a pound of butter, how much salt to use for the brine when butter is to be kept. Information will be gratefully received.

MRS. R. M. HANNA, 155 Grace street, Montclair, N. J.

[The opinion of butter-makers is invited. Meanwhile we append the answers of a number of dairy experts of national reputation as reported to Sec. F. W. Colburn: Our own standard rule is one ounce to the pound. No more is used when butter is to be kept, for reasons that experts do not now generally believe that the addition of extra

salt adds anything to the keeping qualities.

Haecker.—Use from 1 to 1 1-2 ounces, according to moisture in butter.

Wallace.—About one ounce to the pound, but the quantity varies with the market.

Farrington.—We use 1 1-4 ounces of salt to one pound of butter (granular) as it comes from the churn.

Dean.—Any salt that is clean, dry, free from impurities, fine and even in grain and that has a soft, velvety feel is a good butter or cheese salt. Cheese salt may be somewhat coarser in grain than for butter. We use from three-fourths to one ounce of salt per pound of butter for home trade, and one-half ounce for export.

Wing.—Any salt of medium uniform grain that quickly and completely dissolves to a clear solution, and use such a quantity as the consumer may desire.

Goodrich.—One ounce of salt to a pound of butter is about the proper proportion.

Alvord.—The quantity, 16 to 1.

Gutier.—Use three-fourths ounce to one ounce of salt to one pound of butter, to suit the customers.

Gould.—One-half ounce of dissolved salt to the pound is sufficient for butter. Salt does not keep butter.

Dodge.—Quantity depends on the customer; we use about one ounce to a pound.

Mathieson.—When I made butter, one ounce of salt to one pound of butter.

Adams.—The standard brands are all good. The average is one-half ounce to the pound.

Boardman.—Use three-fourths to one ounce of salt for each pound of butter.

Brandt.—About 1 1-4 ounces to one pound of butter.

Morgan.—One ounce to a pound of butter is the general practice.

Nisley.—About one ounce to a pound of butter.

Jones.—One ounce to a pound of butter is the best proportion, generally.

Eyth.—Any pure salt—medium fine grain for butter, and coarse for cheese. From three-fourths to one ounce to a pound of butter.

The English market demands light salting; about one-half ounce to the pound.

Cream of the Bulletins.

WHEN TO SPRAY WITH BORDEAUX MIXTURE.

For Scab and Other Fungus Diseases of the Apple and Pear.—Spray once before the blossoms open, and again as soon as the blossoms fall, and a third time two weeks later.

For Black Knot on Plum.—Spray once before the buds begin to swell, and again just before they burst. These sprayings are directed against the winter spores. For the summer spores, spray the last of May and again about the middle of June.

For Early Blight on Early Potatoes.—Spray when the vines are about two-thirds grown, and a second time two weeks later.

For Both Early and Late Blight on Late Potatoes.—Spray three times: the middle of July, the first of August, and the middle of August.

Rainy weather may render it advisable to spray at shorter intervals, and to increase the number of sprayings.—N. H. Station.

NEW PREVENTIVE OF POTATO BLIGHT.

The report from a French experiment station tell of a discovery of great value to the growers of Irish potatoes. M. Mineur has, it is said, discovered a cheap and easily preventive of blight.

He puts 37 gallons of water into an old petroleum barrel. He then dissolves one ounce of bi-chloride of mercury in a little warm water and stirs it into the barrel. Then fourteen ounces of sulphate of copper are also dissolved in warm water and stirred into the barrel. Then the seed potatoes are dipped into the mixture, in baskets, four or five minutes, removed, and poured in a heap. They may be planted at once, or left seven or eight days before planting. But the mixture is poisonous, and stock must be kept away from the barrel and the potatoes. M. Mineur has tested this treatment under all possible conditions since 1890, and every case with complete success.

EFFECT OF FERTILIZING.

At one of the German experiment stations a number of galvanized iron boxes 16 inches deep and all of the same size were sunk into the soil and filled with a poor, sandy soil. To one of these boxes was added a certain quantity of fertilizer which was thoroughly mixed with all the soil. To another, the same quantity was mixed with the top fourth of the soil only, and some boxes had no fertilizer added at all. All of them were planted at the same time and all were treated just alike. The unfertilized box produced ten ounces of oats, the box in which the fertilizer was mixed with all the soil produced 47 1-2 ounces, the one mixed to half its depth, 52 ounces, and the one mixed to one-fourth its depth produced 60 ounces. The conclusions drawn are, that the productiveness of a soil depends quite as much on the concentration of the plant food as upon the quantity present, and that where only a small quantity of manure is available it is best to concentrate it near the surface in the drill or hill,

and that deep culture without increased manuring will reduce the yield. Of course, deep tilling is best, if the soil is rich throughout its depth.

AUGUST FLOWING FOR WITCH GRASS. I intend to do all my plowing in the fall if possible. I haul manure at any time through fall and winter, being sure to have it all out before the frost is out. Spread it from cart or sled unless there is ice on the ground. Harrow thoroughly as soon as the ground will work well in the spring and sow oats. For planting I like sward broken in August, harrowed several times at intervals to keep weeds and grass down, then plowed lightly in the spring and well pulverized. Land infested by witch grass be worked very well in this way. With farm products at present prices I can afford to use commercial fertilizers only for the garden and a little in hills of hoed crops.—J. H. Barton, Windsor.

HAY HUBBAG.

There is "an evil under the sun," however, that ought not to be allowed, and that is a cheat in pressed hay. Some that was brought here for the best hay and at the highest price would have the outside flakes all right, but on opening, the middle of the bundle would consist of thistles, swamp hay, bushes, leaves and other waste, not worth half price. Why should not farmers have their names on the bundles, and so protect the buyers and honest dealers from such swindlers? For it is one of the worst of swindles and ought to be stopped by law and public opinion.—R. S. Warren.

Treatment of Clay Soil.

It has been my practice for a number of years to put all my land, especially my low land, that I intend to cultivate the next season, in such shape the fall before that I may be able to work it just as soon as possible in the spring. This I do by throwing it up into narrow beds with the plow, giving it good drainage, and, if clay soil, leaving it rough so that the frost can have a better chance to work upon it and make it more porous; it will thus dry quicker. I do not think it advantageous to serve very light soils that way, most especially if they are rich, as much of the richness would be washed out by the fall and spring rains. By leaving clay land prepared as described above till the surface becomes dry and dusty, it will work beautifully in the spring, sometimes in April, when otherwise it could not have been handled till June.—E. W. Wooster.

Oat Hay.

I have tried cutting oats for fodder without threshing, but do not like the idea, at least after the grain is formed, as the cattle will pick for the grain and will not eat the straw; and also the mice will injure it. Last year I cut my oats, or oat fodder, before the oats were in the milk and before the straw had changed any, and was well satisfied with the result. Think my cows did better while eating that than on the best of English hay, and shall continue the practice. Some object to the method, as the fodder is hard to cure, but as there is no grain to waste, the fodder comes finely into play.—John J. Pike, Fryeburg, Me.

Description of Cotswold Sheep.

Color of face and legs white or light grayish; fleece (combing) eight to ten inches long, pure white, and weighing from ten to sixteen pounds for an average clip. In size the Cotswold ranks among the large breeds, ranging from 250 to 275 pounds, and occasionally a specimen dressing over 300 pounds. The head is strong and large, with a somewhat "Roman" nose, no horns, and a characteristic forelock of long curling wool hanging over the forehead; the back is broad and flat, and the wool falls away, naturally parted from the center; the legs are of medium length, with rather heavy bone, but clean and trim withal, and the feet are sound and said to be not subject to foot diseases. The Cotswolds are large, handsome, and long-wooled sheep—prime for mutton and furnishing an excellent quality of combing wool. They have been extensively used in crosses, and have already figured in the origin of several well-known breeds.

Problems in Potato Growing.

From the little garden patch to the broad-acre farm every occupant of a piece of land grows potatoes. Hence the culture of the potato involves some of the most important problems connected with farming. Modern practice has established facts of great importance in this connection, yet unfortunately there is still a large proportion of growers that have not so far accepted these facts as to make them the basis of their practice. In our own State, and we are by no means alone, there is no crop in the list where so large a proportion of the farmers fail in their farm practice to meet the requirements involved as with this universal crop. Go across the country in summer when the crop is growing, and but few fields are seen where the work anywhere near comes up to the needs and requirements of the crop. The result is, of course, a light yield at the harvest. This need not be so. As a rule those who grow potatoes for the early market are successful in securing bountiful crops. In Maine, which may be called the potato growing state of New England, the methods in use have produced heavy crops. The Maine Farmer discusses some of the leading requirements as follows:

The first requisite to successful potato crops, barring plentiful supply of plant food in the soil which necessarily goes with all cropping, is a deep, mellow seed bed. A full yield of potatoes cannot, and therefore never is, realized where this condition cannot or is not first secured. Potatoes must have a mellow soil to make their growth in, and that soil must be stirred deep in order for them to find the conditions necessary to a full crop. Herein is the one great reason of the dearth of acreable yield on so many farms. The soil is not stirred and mellowed deep enough to meet the requirements of the growing plants and tubers. The common practice of planting potatoes on sod furrows is not favorable for large yields. As a rule the fall crops are not grown on such lands. In ordinary practice there is not depth enough of mellowed soil on sod furrows for best results.

Land that has been a year under cultivation, what the farmers term "old ground," is better for growing potatoes than is the sod furrows. In this case the full furrow is disintegrated and mellowed. Such lands properly fertilized and thoroughly pulverized will give the largest yields, and are at the same time more easily fitted in readiness for the crop.

Clean culture is another necessity. Full crops of potatoes are not and cannot be realized with the field choked with growing weeds. Growing potatoes, especially at the time of the formation of the tubers, call for a large amount of water. With a rank growth of succulent weeds filling the soil and drawing on its moisture it is impossible for the potatoes to make a full crop. It never is done under such conditions. Here again is an advantage from the "old ground" land for the crop. Clean culture is much easier to carry out on such land.

Level or hill culture is one of the questions that has been under test by many experimenters. At this time the pros and cons are pretty well understood. If the field given to the crop is a warm, naturally drained soil, and is worked deep and thoroughly, the level culture will be quite as reliable as the hilling. But in this case the potatoes must be planted well down into the soil. It takes depth of soil for a full hill of potatoes to nest in and have needed room. If this necessity is met in level culture it can only be done by going down into the soil.

On the contrary, if the field has a cold subsoil, inclined to be moist, or if the potatoes are to grow on sod furrows, where deep disintegration is impracticable, then it will be found better to plant the seed nearer the surface and depend in a measure on hilling to make up the mellow nidus for the growing tubers.

With these simple, yet imperative conditions fully met in potato culture, there is no difficulty but large yields to the acre will be realized. Crops of three and four hundred bushels to the acre are grown, and they are not accidents. The reason such crops are not general is that the conditions above referred to are not fully met.

New Cattle Bill in Connecticut.

The bill just brought before the Connecticut Legislature deals with the tuberculosis question wholly on the basis of physical examination and tuberculosis is not mentioned at all. A single commissioner is appointed to inspect cattle brought from other states, and other cattle upon request of owners, or cases of disease reported by selection of the various towns. Only physical examination is to be used. Full payment is provided for condemned cattle, but a cow whose physical condition indicates that it is of no real value, is not to be paid for at all.

No provision is made for animal inspection of any kind, except that selectmen are instructed to report to the Commissioner all cases of contagious disease.

Horticultural Hints.

Grapes can be grown almost everywhere, and every farm, garden and village lot should have its vines. Perfection requires high, well drained, strong soil, well fed. Let the trellises run north and south, and be open to the sun. Currants and gooseberries can be grown between the rows if land is scarce.

If located where cheap labor can be obtained, the cherry tree is profitable. One tree may bring from \$20 to \$30. Young trees do not bear heavily but they begin early. The soil must be heavy and dry, for too much wet will cause unfruitfulness, and sandy soil can not supply a sufficient amount of potash.

In our "fruit years" the product is so enormous that the tree is often overtaxed to sustain it, and time is required to recuperate. The failure to bloom the next spring should be easily understood. Let us act the part of wisdom, and thin the fruit one-half; the remaining half will be worth more than the whole, with a better chance for next year.

The orchard becomes useless not so much from old age as from neglect. Trees may be healthy and productive at 25 or 30 years of age. They will bear every year if there be heavy manuring. As they grow older they need heavier manuring and mulching to keep up the requisite vitality.

If the owner feels that he must use the young orchard for some productive crop, it should be a hoed crop, which needs clean cultivation. Corn answers well, the partial shade being of some advantage. Pear trees will not stand forcing, and should have no manure, as blight sets in when they grow too rapidly.

If the grape vines were not properly pruned in the fall, do it now before the buds start. Cut away all superfluous wood, get the vine down to a shape and size which will enable you to handle it, and remember that by not allowing it to overbear you will get the finest product.

If newly planted vines do not start growing at the proper time, the application of hot water is a valuable remedy. Warm the soil thus artificially, and the sap will start flowing. Pour a bucket of hot water into holes a few inches away from the tree and cover quickly. Look for results in a day or two. Keep on watering until it rains.—Lnd. Farmer.

Opinions on Wood Ashes.

"Hardwood ashes are worth \$20 per ton, figuring the value of the ingredients at wholesale prices."—Prof. R. C. Kedzie.

"Crude potash is worth five cents per pound. This only contains about 60 per cent of pure potash, K₂O, so that the value of potash in wood ashes is 8-12 cents per pound. The potash in wood ashes is of considerably more value than when it exists as a chloride or sulphate, as in the German potash salts."—Prof. S. S. Sharpless.

"The carbonate of lime in wood ashes is worth five times as much as stone lime, being much more soluble and easily assimilated by plants. Ashes correct sourness in the soil, rendering sandy soils more capable of retaining fertilizers, and making clay soils less stiff and more easily worked. They drive away insects, and are indispensable for all crops requiring potash."—Peter Henderson.

"The universally high opinion of wood ashes as a fertilizer does not depend merely upon a fair percentage of potash, but also on the presence of more or less of all the various mineral elements essential to the growth of plants. Even the residue is of great value after the chemicals are spent."—Prof. C. A. Goessmann.

Gasoline for Scale Insects.

Gasoline is the latest remedy for insects. It is applied with a brush. "Take any convenient dish or pot and fill two-thirds with water and the balance with gasoline. The water will retard evaporation and assist in spreading the gasoline to every infected portion when applied. Most kinds of scale are killed effectively with one application." We have not tried the plan but give it for what it is worth. A remedy that would readily kill scales and tree lice without harm to the foliage would be a prize indeed.

Pumpkins for Cattle.

Pumpkins, in the opinion of Secretary B. W. McKen of Maine, will be found to be of considerable value for fall feeding, but as they contain so large a per cent of water, too much dependence must not be placed on them. We have fed them in quite large quantities and believe them to be of sufficient value to pay for raising. They are not as nutritious as squashes, but as a larger amount can be grown on a given area and with less care it is probable that they will be found the most profitable to grow for stock feeding.

—Bees must always be bartered; to sell them is considered most unlucky. A bushel of corn or a small pig is held to be a fair equivalent for a swarm. Bartered bees are happy, but to be "guilty of selling them is a grievous sin, indeed, than which nothing can be more dreadful."

Will Last a Lifetime.

There are two important points about a LITTLE GIANT CREAM separator which cannot be found about any separators except those made by us. This separator will last a lifetime and it will deliver the best quality of cream, free from froth and in good condition for ice-cream making or butter making. P. M. SHARPLES, West Chester, Pa.; Elgin, Ill.; Rutland, Vt.

CLIMAX PLANT FOOD.

10 lb. bag, 50 cents, enough for 1000 sq. feet of land.
25 lb. bag, \$1.25, enough for 2500 sq. feet of land.
50 lb. bag, \$2.50, enough for 5000 sq. feet of land.

American Fertilizer Co.
153 Milk St., Boston, Mass.

HAY FOR COWS
AT \$6 PER TON

Would be very cheap, but I have some Feed at \$6 per ton that is as rich as hay. You must feed a little hay, but you will save money by feeding only a small quantity, and making up the required bulk, or number of pounds, with my Feed at \$6 PER TON. Cannot send a sample by mail, but will ship 500 lbs. as a sample on receipt of one dollar. I will sell a car load of 17 tons for \$100, cash with order, and will pay the freight to most points in New England. Better be quick and buy a car of it.

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RELIABLE SEEDS,
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Late Tree Planting.

Every spring there are persons who defer planting because they think it too late when past the middle of April. With careful planting—such as we urge our friends to avoid—this may be true; but it is an error when proper conditions are understood and fulfilled.

These conditions are: 1. That the trees have been taken up at the right time and well cared for so that they have grown little or none. 2. That each tree is given, in planting, three or four gallons of water. The water is to be applied when all the roots are covered with soil; then immediately as the water sinks away, more fine earth is to be thrown on and repeated pressure with the foot given. This makes everything solid—one of the essentials of good planting—and prevents any unfilled spaces being left among the roots. The work is then finished by throwing on more fine soil, leaving the surface perfectly mellow. 3. A mulch of old straw or other loose material is to be spread over the surface around the tree. It should be eight or ten inches in depth, and extend for two or three feet on each side of the tree. This mulch retains the moisture, doing no injury if the season is wet, and saving the life of the tree if (as often happens) a mid-summer drought occurs.

It is the lack of sufficient moisture that causes the loss of so many trees the first season after planting, while the tree has only an imperfect connection with the earth.

Of course a good, wide hole—not less than three feet wide—is to be dug for the tree, and fine soil used in planting, as is the rule in good planting at any time. And the top is to be pruned severely to restore the balance between top and root.

There is nothing haphazard about this; it has been tried here time after time some seasons as late as the middle of May and with entire success. And by not postponing, a year's growth is saved, which is well worth considering.—National Farmer.

Fruit Growers Independent.

Nearly all fruit growers are their own employers. They are at liberty to use their best judgment as to what they shall plant, and how they shall grow it. If they make themselves proficient they get the profit of it. They have no fears of being out of work; and if a friend comes to see them they can stop awhile and visit without being docked or threatened with a discharge. If a member of the family is sick, they can minister to that one without having to render an account to an employer or his servant.—M. Crawford, Milledgeburg, O.

FOR SALE—BULL CALF, large for age, solid color, black points, dropped Jan. 25, 1897. Grand individual, sire, Brown Bessie's Son 245650, a son of the great Brown Bessie, winner of the 90 and 90 days' test at the World's Fair, Chicago, 1893. Dam, Indulgence 50-108, 54 lbs. 1½, 02, in 14 days; 24 dam, Jilly Lenox 31703, 19 lbs. 5oz, 7 days, 71½ lbs. 1 year, 31 prize in World's Fair show ring. Write for price. HOOD FARM, Lowell, Mass.

Caring for Freshly Planted Trees.

I have thought a few hints on the care of trees freshly set out would be of service to many readers, writes the eminent horticulturist, Joseph Meacham, in an exchange. Even those who do know what to do, sometimes overlook it at the right time, and a hint to them will be opportune. Preparation of the ground, by seeing that it is made good, is supposed to have been done already; but even if it has, a good coating of manure around each tree, to remain there all summer and all next winter, too, for that matter, is an excellent thing to do. It benefits in two ways, by furnishing the food carried down by rains and by keeping the soil cool and moist in summer and free from severe freezing in winter, both of which are greatly to the advantage of the tree. A little pruning of the trees should have been done when they were planted, both to compensate for the loss of roots and to form a shapely tree. If not already done, it is not too late now. But this may be said about it: If the trees are making a good growth it shows that pruning is not required to assist the roots, and all that is needed, if anything, is to cut a little to assist the shape.

I have seen many hundred trees lost through not staking them for the first year or two. But every tree does not need it. One must judge for himself whether or not his trees need it. Some that are furnished by nurserymen are trimmed up tall, and when the head leans out it becomes too heavy for the stem. Such a tree will surely blow over out of plumb. Even if it does not blow out of line, it is injurious to a tree to be blown about, as the swaying causes the breaking of the fibrous roots. Therefore a stake is almost a necessity; and where gases have full sweep it will be found profitable to use them. Then there should be some provision made to protect them from animals. Large numbers of trees disappear because this is not done. And even where animals are not permitted near them, guards are useful where carts, plows or harrows come near the trees. And these guards can take the place of supports for the trees. An important matter is to keep the trees well fed. It is most unwise to let grass or any other crop grow close up to the trees. If some crop is to occupy the space between the trees, and there is no reason why it should not if it does not encroach on the food of the trees, care should be taken that for some distance around each tree, as far as it is thought the root extends, no grass, weeds or anything else should grow.

Let the retained portion be kept mulched, then kept loose by cultivation. The borer is a troublesome fellow, especially where there are apples and quinces. This insect has ruined hundreds of orchards, usually boring the trees just below the ground. If undisturbed, the destruction of a tree is soon accomplished. Many so-called remedies to keep borers out are advocated, but so far I have found an examination of the trees once in June and again in August, the most satisfactory way of all. It can be seen at once if the insect is there, and if it be, there is no more time expended in getting it out than there would be in applying some mixture to keep it away. I am sure it will pay any one who has set out trees to attend to them for a few years in the way described.

Cheap, Small Silo.

A twenty-five-ton silo to some farmers seems like a small affair, but no doubt there are many keepers of few cows who consider they have no need for a large silo. In this case, say, for ten cows, the editor of the Farmer's Advocate recommends the round stave silo, ten feet in diameter by twenty feet high, which will hold about thirty tons if about full when settled. Its cost should not exceed \$40 and may be built for less, depending upon the price of lumber. If twenty-foot two inch planks can be got they should be used; if not, a mechanic can splice shorter ones. These should be six or eight inches wide, jointed and not beveled at the edges. The staves should be held in position by half-inch round iron bands reaching either half or all of the circumference of the silo. These should have long threads on the ends, which are run through holes bored in upright hardwood 4x4-inch scantling, extending the entire height of the silo, standing in even with inside of stave (some put them outside entirely), leaving outside of stave two inches or more according to size of scantling. These bands can be tightened or slackened with nuts as required.

In building, a perfect circle should be struck, using a stake and string. The ground should be spaded out a few inches deep so that the bottom of planks will rest against the outer edge of the trench. The two hardwood scantlings should be permanently set up on opposite sides and two other scantlings set up temporarily on the other opposite sides. Notches should be cut into the temporary scantlings and the ends of the bands should pass through the permanent scantlings. Now set up a plank, beside or in front of scantling, and brace it from the ground inside. Each plank as set up is toe-nailed to the one beside it and braced. The brace may

consist of a twelve or sixteen foot board set against a stake in the centre. The planks should also be braced from the outside. Another way to hold the planks in position when set up is to drive a wire nail just above the band and bend it down. The planks should be painted on the outside and edges before being set up.

Dosing a Cow.

To operate, pass the left hand over the cow's face, insert the finger under the dental pad, behind the point where the lower incisors can be closed upon it, elevate the head, and thrust the nose of the bottle into the mouth, taking the precaution to allow its contents to flow out evenly, but not more rapidly than the animal can swallow them. On the first sign of coughing release the animal. When assistance is necessary, the assistant should hold the cow by standing behind the principal, who gives the drink, and grasping a horn firmly in each hand, giving the nose an upward cast. The less restraint the less liability to accident. There is no harm in grasping the nostrils with the thumb and fingers, and in the case of rough animals it is necessary, but it causes a certain amount of pain, and this should always be avoided where practicable. The ultimate benefit of the animal and self-preservation alone justify its infliction. In giving a drink to a cow the tongue should not be pressed down—its mobility should be interfered with as little as possible.

FRUIT-GROWING is a good occupation for women. There is but little hard work about it, but there is room for the amount of care and patience, the very traits that nearly all women and few men possess.—M. Crawford.

5 Sores

In combination, proportion and process Hood's Sarsaparilla is peculiar to itself, and unequalled in its merit. No other medicine ever possessed so much curative power, or reached such enormous sales, or made such wonderful cures, as Hood's Sarsaparilla. It is undoubtedly the best medicine ever made to purify, vitalize and enrich the blood.

That is the secret of its success.

Read this statement: "When my son was 7 years of age, he had rheumatic fever and acute rheumatism, which settled in his left hip. He was so sick that no one thought there was any help for him. Five sores broke out on his thigh, which the doctor said were

Scrofula

sores. We had three different doctors. Pieces of bone came out of the sores. The last doctor said the leg would have to be cut out and the bone scraped, before he could get well. Howard became so low that he would eat nothing, and one doctor said there was no chance for him. "One day, a newspaper recommending Hood's Sarsaparilla was left at our door. We decided to try this medicine. Howard commenced taking it the last of February, after having been sick for a year and a

Cured

half. He hadn't taken it a week before I saw that his appetite began to improve, and then he gained rapidly. I gave him five bottles, when the sores were all healed and they never broke out again. The crutches he had used for four years were laid aside, as he had no further use for them. I give all the credit to Hood's Sarsaparilla." MRS. ADA L. MOODY, Fay Street, Lynn, Mass.

This and many similar cures prove that

Hood's Sarsaparilla

is the One True Blood Purifier. All druggists, \$1. Prepared only by C. I. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass.

Hood's Pills

cure Liver Ills; easy to take, easy to operate. 25c

AGENTS

We have a good opening for a few live salesmen. We pay salary or commission. Write us for terms. W. D. CHASE & CO., Nuremberg, Malden, Mass.

SEPARATOR BARGAINS

I have on hand and for sale a large number of SECOND HAND CREAM SEPARATORS of various sizes and different makes. These machines are in first class condition, having just come from the repair shop. Address P. O. BOX 856, Philadelphia, Pa.

Confidence Restored.

Not Page confidence, that was never lost. Sales increased every year through the late "unprosperousness." Now comes 100 per cent increase for the month of April. This shows that people like the United States and like to buy it of the owner, rather than those who attempt to appropriate it without leave or license.

PAGE WOVEN WIRE FENCE CO., Adrian, Mich.

A. J. C. C. BULL

FOR SALE.

Squirrel Gray, dropped Jan. 22, 1895.

Address, C. O. TUCKER, Newton, Mass.

MOSELEY'S OCCIDENT CREAMERY

FOR TWO OR MORE COWS. PERFECT CREAM SEPARATOR. SEND FOR CIRCULARS. MOSELEY & FULTON, NEW ORLEANS, LA.

THERE is no getting away from the fact that Pure White Lead (see list of brands which are genuine) and Pure Linseed Oil make the best paint.

Properly applied, it will not chip, chalk or scale off, but will outwear any of the mixtures offered as substitutes. It is, therefore, by far the most economical.

FREE By using National Lead Co.'s Pure White Lead Paint, any desired shade is readily obtained. Pamphlet containing valuable information as to color shades of different designs, and also cards showing pictures of twelve houses of different designs, various styles or combinations of shades forwarded upon application, intending to paint.

National Lead Co., 1 Broadway, New York.

Whitman's Adjustable Lever Weeder.

Patented and Mfrs., Whitman Agricultural Works, Auburn, Me. The only Weeder having a lever to adjust inclination of the teeth. Can be used on all crops from time seed is planted until twelve or more inches high. No use for cultivator when this Weeder is used. Varnished to give entire satisfaction. PRICE \$10.00. We prepare freight on receipt of price. For information write or call.

JOS. BRECK & SONS, Corporation, 47 to 54 North Market Street, BOSTON, MASS.

USE A GASOLINE ENGINE. Can be started in two minutes. No steam, smoke, dirt, or noise. CATALOGUE SENT FREE. Chas. J. Jager Co., 174 North Main St., Boston, Mass.

THE GRASS-AT GRAY CABLES T FARIS

—IN—

Dedham and Milton

From \$2500 to \$15,000.

Well Located and near Steam and Electric Lines.

APPLY TO A. WILLEY, 178 Devonshire St., Boston.

LEGAL NOTICES.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

MIDDLESEX, ss. PROBATE COURT.

To the devisees, legatees and all other persons interested in the estate of SARAH A. W. PHIPPS, late of Holliston, in said County, deceased.

WILLIAM D. DEDHAM, executor of said estate, do hereby certify that said SARAH A. W. PHIPPS, late of Holliston, in said County, deceased, was seized of certain real estate, to-wit: of the real estate of said deceased, for the payment of debts and charges of administration, and for other reasons set forth in said petition.

You are hereby cited to appear at a Probate Court to be held at Cambridge, in said County, on the first day of June, A.D. 1897, at nine o'clock in the forenoon, to show cause, if any you have, why the same should not be granted.

And said petitioner is ordered to serve this citation by delivering a copy thereof to each person interested in the estate fourteen days at least before said Court, or by publishing the same in the Boston Herald, a newspaper published in Boston, once in each week for three successive weeks, the last publication to be one day at least before said Court.

Witness, CHARLES J. MCINTIRE, Esquire, Judge of said Court, this sixth day of May, in the year one thousand eight hundred and ninety-seven. S. H. FOLSON, Register.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

MIDDLESEX, ss. PROBATE COURT.

To the devisees, legatees and all other persons interested in the estate of HARRIET CROWELL, late of Holliston, in said County, deceased.

WILLIAM D. DEDHAM, executor of said estate, do hereby certify that said HARRIET CROWELL, late of Holliston, in said County, deceased, was seized of certain real estate, to-wit: of the real estate of said deceased, for the payment of debts and charges of administration, and for other reasons set forth in said petition.

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Witness, CHARLES J. MCINTIRE, Esquire, Judge of said Court, this sixth day of May, in the year one thousand eight hundred and ninety-seven. S. H. FOLSON, Register.

FOR SALE BY JACOB GRAVES & CO

11 Portland St., Boston, Mass.

DOGS, FANCY FOWLS,

PIGEONS, CANARY BIRDS,

RABBITS, and GUINEA PIGS,

MEDICINES FOR DOGS AND BIRDS.

A MAGICAL CURE WHICH BEATS THE WORLD.

Also Seeds of All Kinds.

OWNERS of FARMS

If You are desirous to

SELL, RENT, OR EXCHANGE

your farm, WITH or WITHOUT privilege of buying, now is the time to list them with us. We are constantly having calls for such, and make a specialty of FARM PROPERTY. Send full particulars to

MASS. PLOUGHMAN OFFICE,

Milk Routes for Sale.

MILK ROUTE FOR SALE, with 16 cows, 1 bull, large and small, milk cooler, milk and feed pails. A tons salt hay. Milk sells for 7 cts. year around. It's hard to find a better chance than this. Owner wishes to sell his business. Only 12 miles from Boston. This can be bought for \$800.

WANTED.

Wanted—A farm with stock and tools, to rent or run on shares, with privilege of buying. One that will carry 12 to 20 cows. Would like one with a good milk route. Can give good references. Address as below.

Wanted—Small farm with good buildings, in Essex Co. or southeastern N. H., not over 3 miles from R. R. station, and on or near the R. R. service to Boston. Send full particulars and price to address below.

RETAIL MILK ROUTE, of 10 to 15 or more cows. Family trade. Prefers south of Boston, but would go 20 miles north, north or west of the city. Any one having such to sell can find a customer by applying to J. A. WILLEY, 178 DEVONSHIRE ST., BOSTON.

FIVE to thirty acres with buildings, within fifteen miles of Boston. Send full particulars to J. A. WILLEY, 178 Devonshire St., Boston.

Room 302

J. A. WILLEY, 178 Devonshire St., Boston.

FORM OF ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF ESTATE.

ESTATE OF MARY P. SAUNDERS, late of Cambridge, in the County of Middlesex, deceased, intestate, represented by her executor, J. A. WILLEY.

The Probate Court for said County will receive and examine all claims of creditors against the estate of said MARY P. SAUNDERS, and notice is hereby given that six months from the 20th day of April, A.D. 1897, are allowed to creditors to present and prove their claims against said estate, and that the Court will sit to examine the claims of creditors at Cambridge, on the 25th day of May, 1897, at nine o'clock in the forenoon, and at nine o'clock in the forenoon, 1897, at Cambridge, on the 12th day of June, 1897, at nine o'clock in the forenoon.

Witness, CHARLES J. MCINTIRE, Esquire, Judge of said Court, this sixth day of May, in the year one thousand eight hundred and ninety-seven. S. H. FOLSON, Register.

W. B. DURANT, Administrator.

POULTRY.

Plucking Poultry.

For home use scalding will do no harm, although the process spoils the appearance for the market. The Australian method possesses the advantages of being rapid and easy: As soon as the birds are dead, plunge each in turn into a pail of boiling water, into which a pint and a half of cold water has been thrown (the object is just to scald them), taking care that the water reaches every part of the body. One minute's scalding is generally sufficient; if kept in too long the skin is apt to discolor, and it not long enough the feathers will not easily draw. Every feather can now be stripped off in the easiest possible manner; in fact, they can be almost brushed off; the skin never tears, and the insects that infest all chickens will have disappeared. When clear, pump on the birds to rinse off the wet feathers that still adhere, wipe tenderly with a soft cloth, and hang up to dry with a cloth fastened loosely round to keep them from the air and preserve them white. By this means all the stumps are perfectly removed. It may be as well to remark that ducks cannot be treated in the same manner, as oil in the feathers prevents the water from penetrating.

HAWKS.

Last season we had some experience with hawks, writes A. D. Olin in an exchange. We first tried the shot gun as a remedy. Perhaps preventive would be a better term to use, as there is no help for a young chick when once in the clasp of a hawk. The shot gun is a good preventive when applied at the right time, but our hawks were either too shy or we were not shy enough, for in spite of our watchfulness they would take off two or three every day or two. These few were usually of the earliest hatched broods. Fearing you may think us slow or poor marksmen, I will add that the location of our coops was the best that could be had for loss by hawks, as it was near the edge of a grove. The coops being under apple trees, you see the hawk could get directly above his prey before man or chick was aware of his presence.

Our next plan was to fasten the dog near the coops, not expecting him to catch the hawks, but hoping he might answer as a scarecrow, which he did not. Our third and last plan proved a success. This was a hawk-proof coop, which was made as follows: We cut some old five-inch fence boards into six-foot lengths. Twelve of these pieces made the square frame or pen fifteen inches high. Over this frame we fastened wire meshing securely. Over one corner we placed two wide boards to serve as a protection for hen and chickens at night and in time of storm.

After the hawks had a few trials at clawing wire meshing they gave it up. In a short time we could raise one side of these coops, allowing the young chicks unlimited freedom, as the hawks by this time had sought other fields. The chicks did well in these coops and it was considered a perfection coop for the hen. Never in our experience did hens lay so soon after hatching when with the chicks as last season.

It may not have been the coop, but as we fed them the same as in past seasons we had reason to think that the freedom allowed the hen in these coops made the difference.

BEST LAYERS.

Although many farmers are ready to assert that their fowls don't pay, yet they in the same breath go on to say there is nothing like our mongrel breed for laying and table; in fact, as an all-round fowl. Is not this a little inconsistent? I admit that a cross-bred fowl is equal and, in some respects, better than pure-breds, but a mongrel is not a cross-bred fowl in the proper sense of the word. A mongrel is a mixture of many breeds, a haphazard nondescript fowl. A cross-bred fowl is the result of a first cross between two pure breeds, each possessing some distinctive merit. The result in the former case is deterioration, in the latter increased size, productivity, and prolificness. Now the first point of importance in profitable egg producing is to keep non-sitting breeds. A lot of broody hens beyond what are required are an abominable nuisance, as a dead loss to a farmer. At least two-thirds of his stock of fowl should be non-sitters. This I consider indispensable to success. The experience of thirty years has taught me that the most prolific non-sitting, egg-laying breeds are black Minorcas, blue Andalusians, white Leghorns, and black Hamburgs. Let me tell you that no mongrel fowl can compete with them as egg-layers.—K. B. D.

Cattle Medicines.

At the Agricultural Show to be held next October at Vienna, the novelty will be witnessed of a display of "Veterinary Medicaments." Figaro, in the play, confessed that in his several attempts to make a livelihood he became once an assistant in an apothecary's shop, and often sold to people cattle medicines instead of what the physician prescribed, fewer deaths he asserted resulted by the change.

APIARY.

Some "Don't's" for Honey-Buyers.

Don't buy honey that has stood in the open air, especially in a damp climate. The cappings of comb honey are very porous and affected by all strong smelling and damp surroundings; consequently do not use honey that is kept near tobacco, salt or smoked fish or meats, candles, etc.

Don't buy honey in which any comb is immersed, for pure extracted honey does not need comb in it to deceive the eye, for it appeals to the palate as well as the eye.

Don't use strained honey, as it is squeezed from the comb in which dead bees, larvae, pupae, the bee-moth's larvae, and even worse, are present.

Don't think that honey is expensive, as one quart of honey is equal to five or six pounds of butter in lasting and food results.

Don't forget that cheap syrups (and some expensive ones) bring you two unwelcome visitors—first the doctor, next the undertaker.

Don't buy honey without the label of some apiarist, producer, or reliable firm. Don't stay without honey when you can get a pure, ripened and wholesome article at a fair price.

Don't leave your extracted or comb honey open; cover it.—Beekeepers' Review.

BEST BREED OF BEES.

Since bee-keeping is so rapidly extending, and honey farming proving so profitable for cottars and small farmers, those interested in the subject, and selecting Belgium for their annual holiday, would do well to visit Brussels between the 4th and 12th of September next, when a most interesting "Agricultural Exhibition" will be in full swing, and the question of the best breed of bees, home or foreign, discussed. The subject of crossing races of bees will also be treated.

Advice About Strawberries.

1. Strawberries do well on almost any well drained soil which is free from frost, reasonably fertile and not infested with white grubs.

2. There is little danger of making the soil too rich, but there is a possibility of injuring the plants with commercial fertilizers, if placed too closely about the roots, and with coarse manure.

3. Commercial fertilizers seem to have no effect on white grubs, nor does manure, but the latter stimulates the plants, so as to repair the damage.

4. The best fertilizers are well-rotted manure, bone meal and wood ashes.

5. The best method of preparing the soil is to plow in the fall, mulch with manure, and fit the ground in the spring with cultivator and harrow.

6. The best time to set strawberry plants is in early spring. When plants are to be set in the fall they should be especially grown for the purpose, either in frames or in pots.

7. For matted rows the plants should be set eighteen inches by four feet apart, and for hills one foot by three.

8. In hill culture the runners are all removed, and for the best results in matted rows a part should be cut off, or some of the plants dug out.

9. Generally, it is better to keep a bed only one season, but if kept longer than best treatment is burning soon after fruiting.

10. Winter protection should be given by mulching, and the best material is swamp hay.—Ohio Experiment Station Report.

Barley.

Barley is a very widely distributed grain, it was formerly very much used for food. In Europe it now ranks next to wheat in importance. The varieties most cultivated in this country are the two-rowed and six-rowed. The former will thrive on land less rich than the latter and is a few days later in maturing. Barley thrives best in a warm soil, which should be quite rich, but less so than for wheat. It may follow, in rotation, corn, potatoes, or other hoed crops. It possesses one valuable characteristic, in that it will fill, even after the straw has become lodged, which is not the case with oats. It is an excellent crop for late sowing, as we know from experience and from having seen it standing green and fresh in Northern Penobscot and Aroostook counties even after the ground was frozen. If a few pecks are sown with it the food value of the mixture will be increased. From two to three bushels of seed are sown per acre, according to the condition of the land.—Secretary B. W. McKen, Augusta, Me.

Fire-Blight.

Fire-blight occurs to some extent wherever pears are cultivated. It is a bacterial disease, and there is no absolute remedy for it. A tree that is once attacked is almost sure to be destroyed by the disease in time. Though this is not always the case when the diseased wood is promptly cut away. The limb or branch should be cut some distance below any sign of blackening. Still the disease frequently progresses to a fatal termination notwithstanding all efforts to check it by pruning.

"Alpha---Baby" CREAM SEPARATORS.



\$50.-
TO
\$225.-

De Laval "Alpha-Baby" Cream Separators are more superior to imitating machines than such other cream separators as to gravity creaming processes. In fact, experienced users of different separators regard such imitating machines as of little if any advantage over gravity creaming. A good illustration of this is given in the following letter from the South Carolina Experiment Station, which is overwhelmingly a most convincing tribute to the superiority of the De Laval machines.

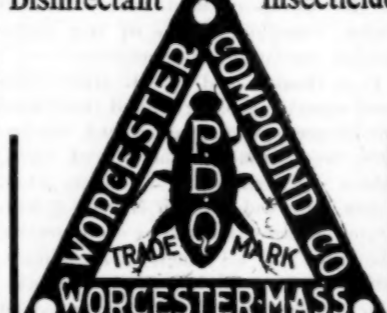
CLEMSON AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE and S. C. EXPERIMENT STATION.
Clemson College, S. C., April 23, 1897.
THE DE LAVAL SEPARATOR CO.,
New York.

Gentlemen:—Has the bowl shipped to Works been received? We are needing it badly. Although we have a U. S. and a Sharp's Little Giant, we are mainly depending on gravity creaming until our De Laval bowl is re-balanced. Truly yours,
J. W. HART,
Prof. of Agriculture.

Don't let anybody fool you on a Cream Separator. Don't be lulled into buying an inferior machine. The best is always cheapest, and can also be satisfactory and profitable. Send for new catalogue No. 237.

THE DE LAVAL SEPARATOR CO.,
Randolph & Canal Sts., 74 Cortlandt Street
CHICAGO, NEW YORK.

A Stable Disinfectant. A Reliable Insecticide.



Keep the cattle healthy and free from tuberculosis. P. D. Q. Powder kills germs as well as insects, in stables, kennels and hen houses.

"It does the work claimed for it."
—Turf, Field and Farm.
"Best article on the market."
—American Sportsman.
"We have proved its value."
—American Stock Keeper.
"Reliable article—a good disinfectant."
—Massachusetts Ploughman.
"Works like magic."
—Pacific Fruit Grower.
All dealers, or send to
Worcester Compound Co., Worcester, Mass.

Sheep and Wool Notes.

It is the weak sheep that become victims to the numerous parasites which menace the comfort of the flock. Hence, keep the sheep in a condition of robust health by taking timely precautions.

An unmotherly ewe which refuses her lamb should be put in a stanchion, and so held that the lamb may get its rations, which it will do in spite of the efforts of the ewe when she is thus confined.

A ternate pastures are a great help to the flock. Sheep love change, and naturally are wandering in their habit. A freshened pasture, therefore, will greatly help them as a change now and then.

Some ewes are poor milkers, for, although the feeding may be the same, some will milk better than others. But we may be sure the milk is made from the food, and some extra good feed may help the ewe to do better. This is a point to be taken note of by the shepherd so that the less productive ewes may be helped out with a more liberal supply of feed.

It has been shown by experience that the dipping of the sheep after shearing has always been a profitable operation. It cleans and strengthens the skin, encourages the free action of the excretory glands, and promotes the new growth of wool. A special practical experiment showed that the increased weight of the fleece paid all the cost of an extra dipping after shearing.

Young animals cannot digest solid food until they have their grinding teeth through. It will be wise to avoid feeding young lambs any grain food until they are thus far advanced. A little meal salted may be given, however, by the hand to tame them, and prepare them for feeding in this way by and by.

Where are the beautiful Leicesters? An inquiry from a breeder of these sheep led to a search for names in our business columns, but not one name of an American breeder could be found. Shade of Bakewell! The enterprise of Canadian breeders of this one sheep, however, came to the rescue.

A little gin is the standard remedy for a weak lamb on the Scotch mountain runs. One teaspoonful of it has an excellent result in supporting the little things through a dangerous crisis. A hot water bath and a dry piece of blanket to wrap a chilled lamb in has saved many an afterwards valuable sheep.

Eggs laid intended for market should be pushed on with every effort, but the best feeding is through the ewe. It is the ewe's rich milk, with its over six percent of fat in it, that makes the succulent fat of the lamb. Lined meal, two to four ounces a day, will help the ewe to supply the needs of the lamb in this respect.—Sheep Breeder.

Feeding Cows on Pasture.

Very soon, now, warm weather will come, and the soil being well filled with moisture, the grass in the pasture will start up and make rapid growth. When it gets up so as to provide a good bite, the farmer will turn out his cows. He will think, because the cows can get grass enough to "fill themselves," and because the flow of milk increases, there is no need of feeding hay or grain any more.

The truth is that this fresh and succulent grass stimulates the production of milk beyond what the nutriment it contains will warrant. It is juicy and watery and lacks substance to such a degree that this large production of milk will rapidly reduce the strength, vitality and carcass of the cow, so she cannot long continue this extra flow of milk, unless she has some more substantial food to go with this fresh grass, to keep her up in condition.

The farmer makes a great mistake when he abruptly drops off his hay and grain feed as soon as the cows go out to grass in the spring. He would probably see very little difference in the amount of milk given for awhile, whether he fed grain and hay with the grass, or not, and for that reason many have come to the conclusion that when they did feed grain on early pasture, it was thrown away, and they received no benefit from it. But the one who does so feed will find that his cows will keep up their strength and condition much better than those not fed, and later in the summer and fall and even the next winter will be giving a much better flow of milk, so that when he comes to foot up his account at the end of the year, he will find that for every dollar's worth of extra feed his cows had while on fresh grass he has received back at least two dollars.

It has been our practice for years to feed all cows giving milk a small grain ration all summer. The advisability of feeding grain on pasture, after the grass has come to have plenty of substance in it, may, with some show of reason, be questioned, but not so in the spring. At that time it is folly not to feed.

We have experimented to some extent, to try to determine what grain food was best to feed on pasture. We have tried wheat bran, but many cows do not seem to care for it much, when the grass is plenty, and refuse to eat it. They seem to crave something more concentrated. Corn and oats they liked much better than bran, and clear corn meal better yet; but, best of all, gluten feed.

Now, what we think is the very best feed for cows on pasture is about five pounds of corn meal and gluten feed—half and half—daily, to each cow giving a fair flow of milk. Besides this, they should have, before them, every time they are put in the stable to milk, some good early-cut clover hay. They will eat some every time, no matter how good the pasture is.—Hoard's Dairyman.

The Pig Pen.

As soon as the pigs are two weeks old, begin to feed them in a side trough. This will push them along nicely and save the sow.

We can reduce the cost of pork by reducing the time in which we grow it. A 200-pound pig well marked with lean, is demanded. This can be got ready in six months, often, and when a butter dairy is run a considerable greater weight can be procured.

A brood sow should have bran, meal and potatoes, roots, offal from the garden, and refuse from the dairy, but no fattening food. As soon as she is pregnant, her rations should contain additional grain, to be discontinued two weeks before farrowing, and until a few days thereafter.

A stunted pig means many pounds less pork at ten months old. Not only must the right food be given in sufficiency, but with regularity and frequency. These three elements always enter into the making of the pigs, whether we know it or not. No man can afford to waste time and money by doing things in a wrong way.

A scrub pig is a scrub, but the scrub from a good thoroughbred is to be chosen in preference to the common scrub, as the good blood and breeding of the thoroughbred will stamp his progeny and throw many good pigs; but many breeders lose their reputation by allowing themselves to sell this class of boars to farmers, because they get a dollar or so in advance of pork.

Coal and cinders are scarcely to be ranked as foods, but they are necessary for pigs in confinement, as without them their digestive organs fail to make best use of other food supplies, the stomach gets out of order, acidity develops and the whole system is deranged. Whatever is withheld, coal or cinders must be given; tailing them, a spadeful or two of fresh earth should be placed in the sty. This will be eaten, and will neutralize acidity. When running loose, pigs get a corrective as they require; but when shut up in yards, they get only what is given them.

The accumulations of swill about the house should be fed out regularly and before they get sour. Anyone knows

that the feeding value of these is very irregular, and when the pigs have only this and grass, their ration is too changeable for thrift. In feeding these wastes aim to make their value regular by adding milk feed, depending more on the ground feed than on the swill. The term swill, and its receptacle, swill-barrel, has never been suggestive of cleanliness, and we believe if we can get away from it, it will be a step in the right direction—that of giving the pigs cleaner and sweeter food.—Columbian World.

Likes Hungarian and Ensilage.

I think that Hungarian for early feeding, before the sweet corn is large enough to feed profitably, is a good word to raise for soiling. Now one word in favor of the silo. Now is the time to plan what to plant for the silo. That the silo is an almost indispensable adjunct to the farm I am fully persuaded. We fed the last of our silage to our cows some ten days since, and since that time have fed good hay instead, and our cows have fallen off in quantity of milk some fifteen per cent. We are building another silo at this time, and hope to have enough silage to carry our cows through the entire feeding season next winter.—B. F. Briggs, Auburn, Me.

Cabbage Growing.

Many people sow cabbage seed too early. The right time for late cabbage or cauliflower is when farmers are planting corn. Sometimes the fly takes the young plants as they are coming up. To avoid this, sow the seed in a shallow box containing three inches of nice soil, and place it on a fence or building a few feet from the ground. Water it thoroughly every morning. As soon as the plants are two inches high, and have the cabbage leaf, they may be transplanted four inches apart, to remain until they are needed for permanent planting. This method insures perfect plants, but when large numbers are required it is out of the question.—Horticulture.

Successful

growers of fruits, berries, and all kinds of vegetables, know that the largest yields and best quality are produced by the liberal use of fertilizers containing at least 10% of

Actual Potash.

Without the liberal use of Potash on sandy soils, it is impossible to grow fruits, berries and vegetables of a quality that will command the best prices.

All about Potash—the results of its use by actual experiment on the best farms in the United States—is sold in a little book which we publish and will gladly mail free to any farmer in America who will write for it. GERMAN KALI WORKS, 33 Nassau St., New York.

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D. J. LAMBERT, Box 112, APOSSAUG, R.I.

One Boy's Success

This 15-year-old boy was a successful poultry raiser. He won seven premiums at the Boston Poultry Show, Jan. 1, 1900. There is no business a boy can carry on more profitably than poultry raising. Every town or country boy can learn how to make money by studying carefully the pages of

Farm-Poultry.

It is a practical teacher and guide to successful poultry-raising. Published twice a month. Price \$1.00 a Year: 50 cts. for Six Months. Send 15 cts. for sample copy containing an article on the boy poultry-raiser and his success. Also a 25 c. book, A Living from Poultry, by E. J. Johnson & Co., 20 Canton Street, Boston, Mass.

FEED FOR PROFIT? FLIES FOR MILK

No Fly, Tick, Flea, or other pest on your milk. Send 10 cents to Mfg. Co., 100 Westmont Ave., Philadelphia. They will return 1 pint of milk and guarantee to refund money if cow is not protected. NEW! Flyproofing machine to keep flies off milk. Apply to 10 and 11th streets, 1900, to see how it works. A bonus for agents.

SHOO-FLY

THE BUSINESS HEN

Breeding and Feeding Poultry for Profit

A condensed practical encyclopedia of profitable poultry-keeping. By 215 practical poultrymen. H. Jacobs, Henry Hale, James Rankin, J. H. Dresch, and others. Fully answers more than 5,000 questions about poultry feeding, care, and diseases. Carefully edited by H. W. Colwell. A collection of the most valuable articles on poultry ever written. Starting with the question "What is an Egg?" It indicates the conditions for developing the egg into a "Business Hen."

Incubation, care of chicks, treatment of diseases, selection and breeding, feeding and housing, and all other subjects in a clear and simple manner. Two successful egg-farms are described in detail. On one is a flock of 600 hens that average 500 eggs each per year. In short, this is the best book for who love "the little American hen" that has ever been printed. Price in paper covers 40c.

For Sale by Mass. Ploughman.

For 15 cents.

We have made arrangements with the publisher to furnish our subscribers with this valuable little book for only 15 cents. The author, Mrs. Jones, is one who has made a success in this line and knows what she is talking about. She writes in a concise, practical way, treating only of what has been a long and varied one, and covering fully the whole subject. Any of our readers who keep cows, whether one or one hundred, will do well to read this book. Send fifteen cents to the Mass. Ploughman Co., Boston, Mass.

DAIRYING FOR PROFIT, OR THE POOR MAN'S COW.

For 15 cents.

FARMERS
REDUCE the Price of Your Insurance by roofing your building with our **IRON AND STEEL ROOFING**. No more fires from defective chimneys through the roof, or from sparks falling upon the roof. Cheaper than shingles, because the first cost is no greater, while the saving and security are double. A **GOOD CORRUGATED STEEL ROOF** at 2 1/2 cts. per square foot. A building roofed with iron or steel is entitled to the same rate per thousand of insurance as one which is roofed with slate—the difference in first cost is in favor of iron and steel. For circulars, prices and estimates, address **THE BERLIN IRON BRIDGE CO., EAST BERLIN, CONNECTICUT.**

BUG DEATH
(SAFE TO USE—NO ARSENIC)
GUARANTEED TO KILL
IF USED AS DIRECTED
OR MONEY REFUNDED.
KILLS POTATO, SQUASH AND CUCUMBER BUGS, CURRANT AND TOMATO WORMS, GREEN FLY OR LOUSE ON ROSE BUSHES.
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Applied with **ECONOMY SHAKER** sprayer TO CARRY. WILL NOT BLOW OR WASH OFF. LEADS APPLICATION DURING SEASON, SAVES LABOR.
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CASH FUND JANUARY 1, 1896, \$611,558.00
SURPLUS OVER ALL LIABILITIES, \$30,000,000.
AMOUNT AT RISK, \$30,000,000.
Losses paid in 1895, \$46,682.24
Dividends paid in 1895, \$72,360.57

PURE GROUND BONE MEAL
For Lawns, Plants, and Garden Purposes Also for Poultry.
Put up in 100 lbs. bags. For prices, address **THOMAS L. STETSON, RANDOLPH, MASS.**

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THE SHORT LINE BETWEEN BOSTON AND NIAGARA FALLS, CHICAGO, ST. LOUIS, CINCINNATI, AND ALL POINTS WEST.
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For Time-tables, space in Sleeping Cars, or information of any kind call on any Ticket Agent of the company or address **J. R. WATSON, Gen'l Pass. Agent, BOSTON, MASS.**

STONINGTON LINE TO NEW YORK.
Express train leaves Park Square Station week days at 7:00 P.M., arrives New York at 7:00 A.M., in time to connect with all early trains. Steamers Maine and New Hampshire in commission. Tickets and State Rooms secured at station Park Square, Boston, and 8 Old State House, Boston. **J. W. PALMER, Agent, Telephone No. 1340. O. H. BRIGGS, Gen. Pass. Agent.**

Poultry Farms for Sale and to Rent
12 ACRES smooth, level land. 14 miles from station, stores, churches and public library. Borders river; 700 feet frontage on main street. 17 miles from Boston. No buildings; good for poultry or green house; price \$750.

WANT TO KEEP A FEW HENS? 1 1/2 to 2 acres. One-half in fruit. 7 room house; high and dry; near good neighbors. Shed, carriage house, and henhouse. Projected electric to pass. Price only \$700; one-half cash.

NEED A PLACE FOR OLD PEOPLE or for ladies who want to keep a few hens; 1 1/2 to 2 acres. One-half in fruit. 7 room house; high and dry; near good neighbors. Shed, carriage house, and henhouse. Projected electric to pass. Price only \$700; one-half cash.

MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN

BOSTON, MAY 22, 1897.

Persons desiring a change in the address of their paper must state where the paper has been sent as well as the new direction.

MANNERS are money.

Less pie and more fruit.

Be your own timekeeper.

MODERATE labor favors health.

SPRAY. Better be safe than sorry.

MAKE every foot of the farm pay its own taxes.

He who makes no mistakes, makes no successes.

A GOOD farm manager is known by his rainy weather work.

LAZINESS, liquor and tobacco will produce hard times upon any farm.

THE borrowed tool is a long time lent. Lend but seldom and save sorrow.

ANGER upsets good advice. Keep cool if you expect your words to take effect.

A NEIGHBOR who is constantly borrowing is never highly valued as a friend.

As to marriage; old maids often wish they had, while old wives often wish they hadn't.

A FARM washroom out in the barn or woodshed is a great comfort during the hazing season.

MORE tons and more bushels from fewer acres, more milk and butter from fewer cows; in this direction profit lies.

HONEST work is useful and makes char. acter. For that reason the industrious person is always worthy of respect.

A DOLLAR saved during youth and put at interest will pay itself back again twice over before old age. Early saved dollars will work for you long.

NEVER look for wealth without labor. You will be just as likely to find a gold mine by digging in your back yard as you will to get rich by luck.

ALMOST any man can acquire plenty to provide for old age who will follow the safe old plan of working and saving. Trying to find a shorter way is a common source of failure.

FARMERS' children ought to be the healthiest and handsomest on earth. And so they are when given sensible diet, good moral training, and plenty of open air exercise without overwork.

AFTER all that has been said about the cheap food and garden luxury called asparagus, there are still thousands of farmers who don't grow a spear of it. Not among our readers, it is hoped. At any rate, set out some more this month.

IN 1896 Great Britain imported 1,589,387,000 eggs. The British bird ought to be ashamed of herself.—Lewell Journal.

IN 1896 Massachusetts imported thirty million dozens of eggs, worth nearly \$5,000,000. Ought not the Bay State hen to feel a little bit ashamed, too?

TRouble is likely to result from the San Jose scale, which has been scattered all over the country through infected nursery stock. It has been found in numerous localities in Massachusetts and Connecticut. Fruit growers are likely to suffer large damages before learning how to effectively fight the new pest. Infected trees or branches should be destroyed.

THIS tariff revision business is a nuisance. Why should trade be knocked to pieces every four years or so for the sake of shifting the customs figures back and forth? More than anything else in a political way, this country needs a permanent tariff commission in order to make changes so gradually and carefully that no great disturbance would result.

THIS summer there will probably not be a very generous free distribution of apples among the poor people of Boston, as the crop, it is expected, will be small; but there may be an offering of vegetables instead. The Ten Times One Society is interested in the work and is talking about making it a permanent feature of the summer. Presumably farmers will soon be invited to present the necessary vegetables.

By a vexatious misprint in last week's paper, allusion was made in this column to "members" of the Mass. Cattle Commission instead of to "ex-members" as intended. It should be stated that the present members of the commission never apply the tuberculin test as private veterinarians. The private testing, which has absorbed such a large proportion of the appropriation has been all carried on by private veterinarians, none of them now members of the Commission. The work of the present Commission has been so straightforward, so tactful, and so free from any ground for criticism, that the above correction is very cheerfully made.

There is more catarrh in this section of the country than all other diseases put together, and until the last few years was supposed to be incurable. For a great many years doctors pronounced it a local disease, and prescribed local remedies; and by constantly failing to cure with local treatment pronounced it incurable. Science has proven catarrh to be a constitutional disease, and, therefore, requires constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure, manufactured by F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, Ohio, is the only constitutional cure on the market. It is taken internally in doses from ten drops to a teaspoonful. It acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. They offer one hundred dollars for any case it fails to cure. Send for circulars and testimonials. Address: F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O. Sold by all druggists, 75c.

TOPICS OF THE WEEK.

The Cuban question has occupied a large share of the attention of Congress the past week. The prompt and favorable response to the President's message in regard to appropriation for relief of American citizens in Cuba, is an indication of the trend of Congressional sympathy. The published opinions of the Senators show a large number in favor of recognizing the belligerency of the insurgents. Some favor more active intervention, while still others see no need for any kind of interference on the part of the United States.

The proposed Government reservoir for irrigation in the Northwest has been the cause of some discussion. Eastern farmers think that too much haste is being shown to bring more land into competition. This sample reservoir basin lies in the heart of the Rocky Mountains, and is ten miles long by two miles wide. Its maximum depth is 150 feet, and the Government engineers estimate that it will hold 20,000,000 cubic feet of water. The walls of the basin are perfect, without a break. The bottom is of rock and is impervious to water. The Big and Little Laramie Rivers will be tapped and it will take between five and six years to fill the basin. Water can be stored to keep the eastern part of Wyoming and western Nebraska supplied with water during the dry season. The water will be collected in winter and used to flood the Laramie and Platte rivers in summer. A corps of Government engineers have been ordered to survey the basin and draw up plans for the feeding ditches. If the project succeeds, the attempt will be made to secure many more reservoirs in the dry sections. Meanwhile, in Kansas, private land owners are independently solving the water problem for themselves. English and New England capitalists who own thousands of acres in the flat hills region of the state, have put a large force of men and teams at work damming the draws and small streams. Fifty thousand dollars will be expended in thus solving the irrigation problem. Experts claim this reservoir system will store and retain all storm waters, increase the humidity and also the rainfall, prevent hot winds and thus make drought and crop failure impossible.

As the season opens for exploration in the far north, Canada this week sends forth her expedition with the rest. The purpose of the expedition is to determine the period for which Hudson Strait is navigable, in order that grain steamers may run through and load wheat for England at Fort Churchill, which will be the terminus of a railway to be built there from Manitoba. There will be an attempt made to learn the fishery possibilities of this vast body of water, of which, at present, little is known. Nets, seines and trawls will be taken along, in the hope that the discovery of great shoals of food fishes may result.

Boston's upper four hundred are talking of the approaching marriage of the richest heiress, Miss Isabelle Perkins, to Lars Anderson, secretary of the United States Legation at Rome. Miss Perkins is one of the richest girls in her own right in America. Several years ago her grandfather, the late Stephen Weld, left her \$17,000,000. This, with the accumulations, will, it is said, be paid over to her when she is 21 years old, about a year hence. She is the only child of Captain and Mrs. Perkins of Boston, and the latter came to a similar big fortune on the death of her father, Mr. Weld. The wedding occurs in Boston, the middle of June.

An imposing financial scheme for lending money to farmers has been well aired in the newspapers of the past week. The plan is to organize a company partially under government control. The rate of interest on long term loans will be 5.50 per cent, which will wipe out the debt at maturity in the case of seventy-five years loans. The actual interest payment is 4.65 per cent. The company shall have power to issue \$2,000,000 in 3.65 per cent bonds, in denominations as low as \$10. These may be issued to borrowers in lieu of money, and are expected to circulate as freely as money. A reserve fund of \$25,000,000 shall be retained. The plan, as outlined above, was shown to Secretary Gage of the Treasury Department, who said, "It seems to be the dream of some impractical man." The idea will, no doubt, be welcomed eagerly by needy borrowers, who naturally like the notion of money at less than six per cent with no principal to be paid.—But the general verdict of business men is to the effect that the necessary capital for such a scheme could not be obtained.

A story of quiet feminine heroism comes from the Southwest. Addie Upson is the name of a young Texas woman who did not lose her wits nor her courage when ordered by masked men to signal a Southern Pacific train to stop, that they might rob the express car. She is telegraph operator at Lörter, Texas, a little station in the most desolate part of the state. She was alone and unarmed in the station at 2 A. M., when the masked robbers, with rifles in their hands, entered her office. The train arrived before she could act, and the thieves shot at the train hands and stole \$15,000 from the express safe. Texas rangers are now in close pursuit as the result of her warning despatches. Miss Upson gave the alarm to the trainmen and notified operators and authorities all along the line, so that the thieves got only a small part of their intended booty, and will probably be captured.

—Miss Daisy Barbee is the name of the counsel for the defense in a murder trial in St. Louis.

A GREAT OCCASION

Dress Goods Department

Having made extraordinary arrangements with one of Boston's largest and best Dressmaking Concerns, we make this most unusual proposition to all our customers: Each day for one week we will make to order a

DRESS SKIRT FREE OF CHARGE

To every person who buys a five-yard length of any material, either plain or fancy, black or colored, at 50c. a yard or more, with the linings and binding. This will be an actual saving to you of at least \$3.00, as no dressmaker would do equal work for you under \$3.00. We shall guarantee perfect satisfaction in every respect or refund the money.

Figured and plain Mohair Sicilienne, also storm sergees in navy blue and black of the very best English manufacture and warranted fast dye, worth at least 65c., are only

50c

GILCHRIST & CO., 5 to 11 WINTER ST., BOSTON.

The State Roads.

The division of the money for State roads this year has called forth some protest from disappointed towns, but according to the fixed policy of the highway commission, the awards seem most consistent. The idea was to apportion the largest amounts in the counties which have the greatest mileage of roads. For this reason the amounts for Worcester are considerably higher than those for the other counties. There are also a number of new pieces of road mapped out in Worcester County. The Fitchburg, Gardner, Phillipston and Westminster sections are for the through highway which will be some day completed between Boston and North Adams; and the Leicester, Spencer and Warren sections are on the Worcester road. There are also large amounts for the roads from Worcester to West Boylston, covering the district to be so disastrously affected by the Metropolitan Water Board's changes. In Berkshire the new Hancock road is to form an important link in an interstate market road, over the mountains between New Lebanon, N. Y., and Pittsfield.

Norfolk County gets enough to connect some of the sections already built, and Essex County probably gets another section of the new North Shore highway. Of the entire \$80,000 one quarter will be held to cover the usual delay in getting the appropriation of the year next following.

Sugar Beet Seed Gone.

The agricultural department at Washington has run out of sugar beet seed, having distributed about 10,000 pounds among farmers in about four-fifths of the states. The seed has been distributed in small packages purely for experimental purposes. The beets grown from the seed will be analyzed, and the saccharine matter determined, to ascertain where beets can be most profitably grown for the production of sugar. These experiments, it is believed, will be of immense value, as the best undoubtedly can be produced with profit in many of the states. Wherever it can be so produced it will give the farmer a new crop.

The Public Gardens.

The floral display in the Boston public gardens has been remarkably showy this spring. The tulips were pronounced the finest on record, and the beds were a bright carpet of varied colors. It is estimated that more than a million pansies and daisies were planted on the public grounds this spring. As soon as the tulips go by they are being replaced by calla lilies, of which many thousands plants will be set. The lilies will be planted among the pansies and daisies, and they will form a most attractive and variegated groundwork for the display of the more lofty flowers. The lilies will be followed by the roses, of which there is the largest and most varied collection ever assembled on the public grounds. Visitors to this city should not omit the public gardens.

Peach Prospects.

The peach crop in Delaware promises well, but little damage having been caused by the cold snap. In the Michigan peach belt the crop will be large in the country bordering the lake. New York State growers expect a large crop, judging by the profusion of blossoms. No great harm seems to have occurred from the frost.

In this section the crop is likely to be large, so far as can be judged from the appearance of many of our large orchards in this state. Reports from other New England states are favorable. In a recent article written for a Denver newspaper, Mr. W. F. Kendrick, of the Kendrick Promotion Co., expresses the opinion that mining stocks are likely to advance, the causes for the present depression not being such as to make the low price permanent. He thinks that such securities, as a class, are now cheap in proportion to their dividend-paying capacity.

The liquor habit is best reached by medical treatment. A guaranteed remedy is advertised in another column.

—News has been received of the drowning of William Perry of North Lincoln, James Francis of Oldtown and Albert Cominer of Winn, in Pamedumook Lake, just south of the thoroughfare running to Ambejus Lake. These three men with three others were coming out from the drives in a canoe when the canoe was swamped in rough water in the Pamedumook. The bodies have been recovered. Francis was the son of Joe Francis, Maine's most famous guide and hunter.

—The Senate debate on the tariff bill is expected to begin next week.

—The cattle supply on the Northwestern ranges is in danger of depletion.

—It is proposed to introduce the German land bank system into this country.

—The new gunboat Vicksburg, built at Bath, Me., made 13.38 knots in a trial test.

—A severe earthquake shock startled the people of Reno, Nev., but no one was injured.

—The government experiments in the exportation of butter are being watched with much interest.

—John D. Russell, agent of the Queensland Government, is in California trying to induce farmers and skilled artisans to emigrate.

—Governor Black, of New York, has signed the Civil Service bill, which, it is claimed, practically abrogates the civil service laws.

—The Massachusetts Legislature has passed a bill fixing persons who attempt to take charity shows or alleged sacred concerts on Sunday.

—Rain for thirty-six hours has again flooded the country near Middlesboro, Ky., and thousands of acres of growing corn are under water.

—The Mississippi is now stationary at New Orleans and falling at all places above. It is now believed that the worst of the high water of 1897 is over.

—Kentucky witnessed the spectacle this week of two separate bodies sitting in session in the same hall, and each claiming to be the Senate of Kentucky.

—The body of Lewis Hayward, a former resident of Northville, was found suspended from a tree near Elmwood, Sunday; suicide is probably the solution.

—Gloucester business men and citizens generally are up in arms over the action of the State Highway Commission in refusing to build the third section of highway on Western avenue.

—Information has been received by J. E. Crowell of Milford, N. H., to the effect that he is an heir to a portion of a large estate in England, his share being estimated at about \$800,000.

Read and Run.

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—A severe earthquake shock startled the people of Reno, Nev., but no one was injured.

—The government experiments in the exportation of butter are being watched with much interest.

—John D. Russell, agent of the Queensland Government, is in California trying to induce farmers and skilled artisans to emigrate.

—Governor Black, of New York, has signed the Civil Service bill, which, it is claimed, practically abrogates the civil service laws.

—The Massachusetts Legislature has passed a bill fixing persons who attempt to take charity shows or alleged sacred concerts on Sunday.

—Rain for thirty-six hours has again flooded the country near Middlesboro, Ky., and thousands of acres of growing corn are under water.

—The Mississippi is now stationary at New Orleans and falling at all places above. It is now believed that the worst of the high water of 1897 is over.

—Kentucky witnessed the spectacle this week of two separate bodies sitting in session in the same hall, and each claiming to be the Senate of Kentucky.

—The body of Lewis Hayward, a former resident of Northville, was found suspended from a tree near Elmwood, Sunday; suicide is probably the solution.

—Gloucester business men and citizens generally are up in arms over the action of the State Highway Commission in refusing to build the third section of highway on Western avenue.

—Information has been received by J. E. Crowell of Milford, N. H., to the effect that he is an heir to a portion of a large estate in England, his share being estimated at about \$800,000.

—Peter O. Farrell, charged with assaulting with intent to murder his fiancée, Miss Hannah Burke, in Springfield last December, has been convicted in the Superior Court and is now awaiting sentence.

—A log boom belonging to A. L. Brooks & Co. broke at Litchfield, a few miles above Nashua, Sunday morning, and 6,000,000 feet of logs are now on their way to the ocean, having arrived at Pawtucket dam in Lowell.

—Set of 12 Portfolios, 16 full page photos each 13-1/2 x 11, 192 pages in all, subject, "Beautiful Paris," edition cost \$100,000, given absolutely free with beautiful case, by Dobbins Soap Mfg. Co., Philadelphia, Pa., to their customers. Write for particulars.

—The largest mortgage ever recorded in Essex county was filed for record at the court house there recently. The mortgage was for \$135,000,000, placed on the property of the Reading Railroad Co., and the Philadelphia & Reading Coal & Iron Co. in favor of the Central Trust Co. of New York.

—The mystery surrounding the disappearance of Charles Henry Cypher of Oakdale is yet far from solution. Three hundred citizens of Worcester, Sterling, West Boylston, Oakdale and Princeton formed themselves into a searching party and scoured the surrounding country, but with no result.

—At the annual convention of the Sociological party of Massachusetts this week at Lawrence, the following nominations were made for State officers: for governor, Thomas C. Brophy of Boston; for lieutenant governor, Edward A. Buckland of South Hadley Falls; for treasurer, George A. Brown of Lynn.

—The report of Colonel S. N. Mansfield upon the project for the improvement of Merrimack River between Newburyport and Haverhill, authorized by the last river and harbor bill, has been transmitted to Congress. It proposes to dredge a channel between the points named, one hundred and fifty feet wide and seven feet deep.

—News has been received of the drowning of William Perry of North Lincoln, James Francis of Oldtown and Albert Cominer of Winn, in Pamedumook Lake, just south of the thoroughfare running to Ambejus Lake. These three men with three others were coming out from the drives in a canoe when the canoe was swamped in rough water in the Pamedumook. The bodies have been recovered. Francis was the son of Joe Francis, Maine's most famous guide and hunter.

—The proportion of first-class butter made in this country grows larger each year as a result of the extension of the creamery system, while the price is constantly declining. Accordingly a foreign outlet for the best grades will afford a welcome relief for the home markets. Hitherto most of the butter exported has been of the poorer grades. This movement aims to increase the demand for the best American butter.

—Cut flowers, shrubs and bedding plants were abundant at Horticultural Hall last Saturday.

Charles E. Richardson brought flowers of the European wild cherry, Prunus Padus, resembling those of our native species, but larger and handsomer.

P. G. Hanson and W. H. Hunt exhibited superior asparagus; and there were fine lettuce, spinach, beet greens, cucumbers, beets, radishes, mint and balm, shown by Arthur F. Coolidge, Hon. Aaron Low and Warren Heustis & Son. Gratuities were awarded by the vegetable committee to all these contributors. James Conley exhibited fine mushrooms, which received the award of gratuity, and quite a variety of native fungi was shown.

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One Woman's Way.

Again, I would look to it sharply that my barns were comfortable, and that my creatures were not neglected or left to suffer from want or exposure. Without proper care and treatment we cannot expect to get the returns from our dairy we are anxiously looking for. Neither would I keep two horses to one cow, and then complain that the cows did not do half toward supporting the bran that they ought to, but I would cut all expenses down to my income, and scratch from morning until night to keep pace with the enterprising farmers in my vicinity. Nor would I let my harvesting go until the frost ruined my crops, to attend all the cattle shows and fairs within my reach. And above all, I would pay my debts even if I had to sell my best cow to do so, for when a farmer loads himself with unpaid bills he carries a burden that, with taxes, insurance and interest, it would take the best paying farm in town to cancel, besides the obligation he is all the while under toward those who are holding him. While a man is in debt he is never sure of himself or his property.

—Mrs. F. E. Drury, Norland, Me.

Victorious Turkey causes uneasiness among the meditating Powers by the excessive nature of the conditions of peace as demanded by the Porte. The large money forfeit might be conceded, but the cessation of the thesauri would prove so distasteful to Greek sympathizers throughout Europe, that the demand is vigorously resisted. Probably Turkish diplomacy is much like Turkish shopkeeping in the peculiarity that much more is demanded at first than anyone is ever really expected to concede.

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Stimulate the stomach, rouse the liver, cure biliousness, headache, dizziness, sour stomach, constipation, etc. Price 25 cents. Sold by all druggists. The only Pills to take with Hood's Sarsaparilla.

Extending the Butter Market.

The new Secretary of Agriculture seems to be starting some very practical and definite lines of work. Besides protecting the infant sugar beet industry, Mr. Wilson is devoting much attention to the foreign dairy market.

The department has entered upon a series of experiments for the experimental sale in London of our best butter under its own name. By direction of the secretary, Major Alvord about two weeks ago purchased and shipped about 2000 pounds of our choicest creamery butter. It arrived recently at Southampton. Under arrangements previously perfected, this butter probably already has found its way to the consumer through the ordinary channels of trade, but was shown and sold as United States butter. This will be followed through the hands of the jobbers and retailers to the consumer and the judgment of each secured upon it. Other shipments will be made from time to time.

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THE HOUSEHOLD.

THE GRASSHOPPER AND THE ANT.

A grasshopper sat in his plush-covered chair, and extended his feet to the fire. He had slipped off a cap of red silk, and all that one's heart could desire.

And he was just thinking, with satisfied mind, of his larder's bounteous store, when the butler announced, with a look of disdain, a little black ant at the door.

This little ant's tale was distressing to hear, for his cottage was covered with snow, and all the provisions, laid in for a year, were eaten and gone long ago.

The grasshopper leaned his chin on his hand, and he thought of that day in the past when an uncle of hers told an old ant of his. She could dance in the wintry blast.

But he gave her some mittens, a hood and shawl, a box filled with everything nice; as he tenderly helped her down the front steps, he added this parting advice:

"I fear, my dear ant, you work too slow when the summer days are long; whenever I find things are falling behind, I brace myself up with a song."

"Now, here is a point, just bear it in mind, when you start out again in the spring, you can no more work in such less time, if you merrily whistle and sing."

—Christian Intelligencer.

A GOOD THOUGHT.

She might have acted better when she went to church that day, but she couldn't understand the words the preacher man said.

And mamma said, "Remember, though you cannot understand, He's always telling us about things beautiful and grand."

So you must sit quite still, and think of something good yourself."

She listened with attentive air, the sober little elf.

Next Sabbath, in the high-backed pew, with sweetly serious air, she listened to the services, the sermon, and prayer.

And mamma praised her girle, as she stroked the curly head.

"Es, mamma, I remembered all we doo advice on said, An' I was dot wessless, an' was so dwelt dwelt."

I thought of somefwin lovely doo—I fought of apple pie."

—Minnie Leona Upton, in the Household.

A FAMILY OF TWELVE.

The hired man found them while he was mowing the alfalfa field.

There was a sudden "whir-r-r" that made him jump, as a poor, frightened mother quail flew off her nest; and there, among the long green stems, lay twelve pretty speckled eggs.

Just then the dinner-horn blew, so he put the twelve eggs into his covered tin-pail, and started briskly toward the mill house; for he was warm and hungry.

As he crossed the treeless fields the sun beat hotly on his old straw hat, and the pail almost grew too warm to hold. But it was lucky that he did not drop it; for inside wonderful things were happening, as the hired man discovered when he reached the veranda and uncovered his pail.

Where twelve pretty brown eggs had lain, were twelve baby-quails, running about among their own egg shells, as lively as crickets, and not much bigger.

"O! O! O!" cried the two little girls, their eyes shining with delight; "let's show them to grandma—quick!"

Four little eager hands reached the pail, with its scrambling load, and hurried them into the house.

"Poor little tots!" said gentle grandma; "what will become of them?"

"Oh, let's keep them, grandma—we do!" pleaded two wistful voices. "We can take care of them."

"But they need a feathered mother, dearies," grandma answered. "Tell the hired man to catch the old hen whose chicks were killed by a weasel last night; perhaps she will adopt them."

So the hen was brought and popped in a coop, clucking and struggling, and running to and fro on her long, awkward legs. She was absurdly big and very clumsy, and for some minutes appeared to have not the slightest intention of adopting the twelve little waifs huddled, cheeping, in a corner.

But even a silly old hen will sometimes make the best of things; so it happened that after a little she settled down, and the poor, cold baby-quails crowded under her comfortable wings.

"Now they've got a mother," said the little girls.

An hour later, grandma heard a wall from the direction of the chicken-coop, and hurried to see what was the matter.

"She's eating them! Oh, she's eating them!" howled the children. And sure enough, there, in the middle of the coop, stood a choking old hen, with two pitiful little quail-foet protruding from her ugly yellow bill. Grandma rushed valiantly to the rescue, and the ten survivors were carried into the house in an apron.

For two days they lived in an old basket, wrapped in flannel rags, and then, one morning, Chung, the Chinese cook, appeared with a strange burden.

"Little quail lakkee mamma. My cousin catches. Heap nice quail!" he beamed, handing grandma the queer bundle of feathers and string, which he prodded to be a tightly bound hen-quail.

"Heap nice mamma!" he repeated, when the cords were loosed and the quail nestled down, spreading her wings for the babies to creep under. And the ten little orphans, pressing in among the soft feathers, thought so too.

"Horrid old hen!" said the two little girls. "They've got a real mother now!"

—Outlook.

RODNEY'S LEMONADE.

Rodney was a good boy most of the time, but he liked to have his own way, and sometimes this liking made it very hard for him to be as obedient as he should.

One warm day he began coaxing Mama to allow him to make some lemonade. "No, Rodney," Mama answered. "I have only enough lemons for cook to use, and you know we expect company for tea."

Rodney said no more, for he knew when Mama said "no," she meant "no," and teasing was of no use, even if it had been permitted. But the desire for lemonade was very strong, and instead of thinking of something else, which would have been the sensible and right thing to do, he kept thinking how good the lemonade would taste if he only could have some.

A little later Mama went to call on a neighbor. The girls had heard Rodney ask for the lemonade, but they were busy playing now and had forgotten all about it.

Rodney looked as guilty as he felt when he went to the kitchen and looked around. Cook had gone to her room.

"One won't matter," Rodney said to himself, although he didn't believe what he said; he only wanted to believe it. He went to the bag of lemons and very carefully drew one out.

"Quick, now!" he said to himself again, and then he jerked out a knife, pulled down the lemon squeezer and divided into a jar. Next he added water and after a hurried stirring put the glass to his lips and took a long, hasty drink.

Then his eyes grew large, his face turned red and ugh! what a mouth he made.

He left the tumbler on the table, too much disgusted to remember to put away the traces of his wrong act, and walked out into the yard.

Very soon May and Carrie, his two sisters, came into the kitchen to ask cook for a ginger snap. There were the tell-tale signs on the table and the half-finished glass of lemonade. "It's Rodney's," said May, "and Mama told him he couldn't make any."

The girls looked sober for a moment and then a spirit of mischief took possession of them.

"I wonder where he's gone?" said Carrie. "Let's drink the rest of his lemonade before he comes back."

"All right," answered May, "it'll serve him right."

So Carrie took up the tumbler. She tasted it and set it down. "Try it!" she said briefly.

May took a very suspicious sip and set it down hastily.

"Salt!" she exclaimed.

"Salt!" Carrie responded, and then they both began to laugh.

When Mama came home they told her the joke, and although she looked very sober when she heard of Rodney's disobedience, she could not help smiling a little at the punishment he had brought upon himself.

Of course, the girls teased him unmercifully about his new kind of lemonade and this was hard enough to bear, but when at supper Mama passed a piece of lemon pie with a great, thick frosting over the top to all the rest and not a bite to him, that was worse still.

But it taught Rodney a lesson, and now he makes lemonade only with Mama's consent, and then he has cook direct him to the sugar jar.—The Delinquent.

The Coral Reefs.

For many years the origin and character of coral reefs have been the subject of keen dispute among men of science.

There are fringing reefs which skirt the coast, like those at Key West, where are barrier reefs, which form in huge masses in deep water several miles from land; and there are atolls—ring-shaped reefs about which little is known and much is disputed. These latter, ranging from 150 to 1000 feet thick, have been made the subject of investigation at Funafuti, one of the Ellice group north of Fiji.

To this place the English ship "Penguin" carried a party of scientists, equipped with a boring plant. Though these operations encountered many difficulties and failed to determine the development of the atoll, they have made its form clear and brought some interesting facts to light.

The average depth of the ocean bed from ten to fifteen miles from the island is 2000 fathoms. Were the water suddenly to disappear, a huge table-mountain 12,000 feet high would be disclosed, thirty miles long and twenty-eight wide at the base. At first the slope is gentle, then steep, reaching an angle of thirty degrees at a height of 9500 feet. This continues for 1500 feet. Above that, this Alp of the ocean is a precipitous scarp of 700 feet. Thence the ground slopes gradually to a large, crater-like basin.

Chances for Success in Large Cities.

In solving "Problems of Young Men" Edward W. Bok, in the May Ladies' Home Journal, replying to an inquirer contends that opportunities for promotion (in business) are more numerous in large cities than in smaller communities, but they are not better. "There are more chances in the larger cities, but likewise there are more applicants for the chances. Salaries may be higher in the centres, but so, too, is the cost of living. Things always equalize themselves. To my way of thinking, a moderate business success in a small community means more to a man in point of living and absolute satisfaction than a greater success in a larger city."

REASONS FOR USING

Walter Baker & Co.'s Breakfast Cocoa.

1. Because it is absolutely pure.
2. Because it is not made by the so-called Dutch Process in which chemicals are used.
3. Because beans of the finest quality are used.
4. Because it is made by a method which preserves unimpaired the exquisite natural flavor and odor of the beans.
5. Because it is the most economical, costing less than one cent a cup.

Be sure that you get the genuine article made by WALTER BAKER & CO. LTD., Dorchester, Mass. Established 1780.

THE HOME CORNER.

FREE PATTERN.

By special arrangement with the BAZAR GLOVE-FITTING PATTERN CO., we are able to supply our readers with the *Basin Glove-Fitting Patterns* at very low cost. It is acknowledged by every one that these patterns are the simplest, most economical and most reliable patterns published. Full directions accompany each pattern, and our lady readers have been invariably pleased with them in the past. The coupon now will accompany each order, otherwise the pattern will cost the full price.

MASS. PLOUGHMAN COUPON.

Cut this out, fill in your name, address, number and size of pattern desired, and mail it to THE HOME CORNER, MASS. PLOUGHMAN, BOSTON, MASS.

Name

Address

No. of Pattern

Size

Enclose ten cents to pay expenses.

7030—Misses Norfolk Waist with Applied Plaits.

Norfolk basque made of all-wool cheviot with the free edges finished with machine stitching in tailor style, for a young miss. The basque is shaped with single bust darts, under-arm gores and curving centre seam in back. The plaits are graduated at the waist line and applied on back and front with a single row of machine stitching near the edges, or they can be blind-stitched on, if so preferred. A close standing collar finishes the neck. The sleeves are of fashionable fullness at the top and fit the arms closely from elbows to wrists. A belt of the material encircles the waist. The "Norfolk" is an exceedingly popular style of waist, suitable alike for cycling, school or best wear, the box plaits giving the necessary fullness to the undeveloped figure. Cheviot, alpaca, serge, tweed, covert or silk in plain, mixed or plaid, are favorite materials for making. It is also a good model for gingham, percale, batiste, and other summer fabrics may be employed. The garment may be plainly completed or trimmed with braid, as preferred. To make this basque for a miss of fourteen years will require three and one-fourth yards of forty-four-inch wide material. The pattern, No. 7030, is cut in sizes for misses of twelve, fourteen and sixteen years. With coupon, ten cents.

Rich black moire-velour made this style basque; knife plaiting of mouseline-de-soie forming epaulettes and extending down the front in soft jabot effect. Further ornamentation being afforded by handsome jetted passementerie. The neck is completed by a high flaring collar cut in tabs and wired, showing between its divisions a full ruche of plaited mouseline, which affords a charming and becoming finish. With this cape is worn a toque from Virot, of tulle braided strap trimmed with tiny ostrich tips and full ruche of plaited mouseline, a delicate spray of flowers rising above the crown. The garment introduces an entirely new feature in the way of spring wraps, and is trimly adjusted to the figure, tapering gradually at the waist and extending both back and front below this point in graceful outline. The sleeves are circular in shape and reach to below the elbow; slight gathered fullness adjusting them gracefully at the top. The garment is lined throughout with pretty two-toned silk, and is provided with a belt that is tacked inside at the waist line in back and front to keep the garment in position. Silk, satin, velour, poplin, velvet and broadcloth make stylish capes by the mode. Jet, passementerie, galloon and embroidery bands, lace, mouseline, plaited chifton and other decoration being used as taste suggests. To make this cape for a lady in the medium size will require four and one-half yards of twenty-two-inch wide material. The pattern, No. 7032, is cut in sizes for a 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40-inch bust measure. With coupon, ten cents.

6892—Ladies' Fancy Waist With Shaded Bolero.

Green, black and cream lace are cleverly arranged in this exquisite model, the bolero of which is uniquely slashed, revealing the bright-hued material beneath. The fanciful tabs falling deeply over the sleeves are a continuation of the bolero, which is bordered on the free edges with a frilling of black satin ribbon. The waist is provided with glove-fitting linings closing through the centre-front, over which the pretty flatters is arranged by well regulated gathers at neck and waist line. A crush belt, of the usual depth in front, encircles the waist, but gradually widens toward the centre-back where it closes between tucked shirred edges and extends above the waist line. A standing collar completes the neck, concealed by a crush stock of silk with a flaring collar above. The sleeves, of moderate dimensions, have the slight fullness at the top regulated by gathers, while stylish flaring cuffs complete the wrists. Handsome combinations can be effectively developed in the mode, which is suitable for the most dressy occasions and is one of the advanced styles of the coming season. To make this basque for a lady in the medium size will require two and one-half yards of forty-four-inch material. The pattern, No. 6892, is cut in sizes for a 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40 inch bust measure. With coupon, ten cents.



7030—Misses Norfolk Waist with Applied Plaits.



7032—Ladies' Piterine Cape.



6892—Ladies' Fancy Waist With Shaded Bolero.

There is a decided difference of opinion as to the most desirable fashion for making house-dresses. Of course, much depends upon the actual purpose for which they are intended; but one thing should never be lost sight of—they should be made in the simplest style, and in one that will permit laundering without difficulty. Many ladies prefer a plain princess dress with a simple flounce around the bottom, plain, not very tight sleeves, and either a straight standing collar edged with embroidery or a wide turn-over collar and a linen collar worn inside of it. Cuffs cannot well be worn for many household duties, and the dress should therefore have bands of embroidery-ry turned back over the sleeves in the form of outside cuffs, says the New York Ledger.

Another pretty style is a plain round skirt with hem and tucks, and a blouse waist or half-fitting sacque. Some attention should be given to the materials of which such dresses are composed.

There is so much difference in the ease with which various fabrics may be laundered that this is a matter which is deserving of some consideration. For summer wear, gingham or plain print makes a very desirable and inexpensive dress. If the cost of the garment is not a specially important item, dresses of linen will be found cooler and much more comfortable than those of any other material. There is a heavy, firm, rather dark-brown linen that makes the most admirable house-dresses imaginable. A dress that was particularly admired was recently made of this goods. A deep hem around the bottom of the skirt had a heading in vine pattern done in etching stitch with red marking cotton. The skirt was made of two breadths of the linen, and was plainly gathered to the belt. The waist was in sailor fashion with very wide turn-over collar, cuffs and inner vest also finished with the vine pattern. Small buttons of red ivory closed the front. The dress required but three yards and a half of material to make, and cost, aside from the work, but a trifle over three dollars.

Cotton chevrons make admirable dresses for domestic wear. Another material especially durable and useful is blue denim. This material makes up in much more stylish fashion than one would imagine. Neatly made and trimmed with Swiss edging at the sleeves and collar, this material will be eminently satisfactory for hard usage. It is the best economy to make dresses specially to wear while working.

The failures in the matter of home painting are not a necessity, but rather the result of misapplication and ignorance as to the proper paints and the manner of their use. There are so many kinds of paints for various uses that it almost requires an expert to apply the right paint in the right place at the right time. There are furniture paints, and bathtub paints, and enamels and calcimines in various degrees, says an exchange.

An important factor, too, and one often lost sight of, is the preparation of the article to be treated to a coat of paint. For instance, suppose an old bedroom suit is to be repainted. A color should be selected not diametrically opposed to its original color. While enamel over an old walnut suit, while it may be possible, is rather difficult. A color chosen in cherry, dark blue or some of the darker shades will be easier to handle.

In the beginning, the piece to be painted should be thoroughly cleaned with soap and water. It should then be rubbed all over with a piece of sand paper, not too coarse. This will take off the varnish, and the first coat of paint will adhere better in consequence. Then the paint is to be used.

One of the gravest errors, and one most frequently made, is to use the enamel paints for both coats. These are especially prepared for furniture, and, having a hard enamel finish, dry quickly. Besides being expensive, where two coats are used, the second coat does not adhere well over the enamel.

The proper way, so say those experienced in the matter, is to buy for the first coat ordinary indoor paint of the same shade as the enamel. After the furniture has been thoroughly washed and sanded, brushed off and dried, the first coat is put on carefully. At best two brushes are required—one three-inch flat brush for the larger surface and a small brush for intricate places.

In twenty-four hours, when the coat is thoroughly dry, it is often advisable to go over it lightly with a fine sand paper. This removes any chance hair left by the brush, and smooths down any little lumps of paint which may have hardened from the first coat.

Before beginning the second coat the brushes should be thoroughly cleaned. If the paint at any time is found to be too stiff, the pot may be set in hot water. The second coat should be added quickly with a fine brush, and the piece of furniture left to dry in a place where there is no dust.

Whatever will save a few steps, whatever will spare an aching back, whatever will lighten the labor of housework, cannot be dispensed with if possible, says the Prairie Farmer. Think how many steps could be saved in a day if things were only arranged conveniently, especially in the kitchen. It is no easy task to move the heavy furniture in some kitchens. Neat, light utensils and furniture are no more expensive than the heavy ones, and are just as strong.

When cooking a meal, a woman will walk back and forth from pantry to stove a half dozen times to get salt or spices for what she is preparing. How much better would it not be to have her spice box on a small shelf near the stove, or hung on a nail within easy reach. Every one admires an immaculate floor, yet none but the one who scrubbed it realizes what it cost—the weariness, the hard work, and the aching knees.

A couple of gallons of dark paint or some stain, or enough oilcloth to cover the floor would, in the long run, be far the cheapest.

It is the systematic housekeeper who has time to read, to play with her children, and to do pretty fancy work, not the one who sleeps until the last minute in the morning, gets breakfast in a rush, and then sits down to read a fascinating novel before the dishes are washed. Such a woman is always grumbling about the amount of work she has to do, and making it unpleasant for both husband and children.

There is yet another kind of housekeeper who would have more time if she was not eternally "picking up and setting to rights." What matters it if Marion left the sofa pillow a little out of place, or if the table is strewn with the latest magazines, where John left them? What matters it if the big easy-chair is pulled up to the blazing fireplace, where it looks so inviting? Surely primpiness is not artistic, and there is a vast difference between disorder and such arrangement which is most comfortable. A pleasant home is made by the people in it, and that with which they surround themselves. Pretty ornaments and books make the home attractive, even if they do make a little more work.

THE "GROWN-UP" DAUGHTER'S DUTY TO HER MOTHER.

You can only have one mother; therefore, when her step is growing slow and her mind gloomy with forebodings, and you can see that her whole nervous system is upset, it is your filial duty and privilege to attend to her in time! Mother is approaching the most critical period of her life.

The change of life, that is what mother is dreading, and no wonder, for it is full of peril to all but the strongest women.

There are some special and very wearing symptoms from which mother suffers, but she will not speak of them to any one. Help her out; she doesn't know what to do for herself!

Shall I advise you? First, send to the nearest drug store and get a bottle of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, and see that mother takes it for herself!

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1900



THE HORSE.

—Vitality, 2:13, has been bred to Baron Rogers, 2:10 3-4.

—Our horse correspondent recently viewed Patronage, the sire of the world's champion trotter, Alix 2:03 3-4. He is a very handsome dark-bay horse, and has a remarkably intelligent look. He was driven by his owner, Mr. Percé, who is also the owner of the famous Little race mare, Alcida.

—Last Saturday being the working-out day of most of the trainers at Readville, some good stepping was seen. The track was in good condition, though not fast. Among the horses particularly noticed was Kittle Van 2:18 1-4. She was in good trim, and after some brushing stepped some fast miles for so early in the season.

—Madeline 2:23 1-4, one of the few remaining daughters of Rysdyk's Hambletonian, brought only \$120 at the recent sale in New York. She is twenty-two years old, and out of the dam of Robert McGregor. In 1890 William Simpson paid \$3,000 for her. She is the dam of Metamora 2:19 3-4, and is believed to be in foal to Hammer.

—The nose-bag is a grand institution for horses that are, from the nature of their work, kept from their stables for many hours at a time, and it should always be carried. Some cranks have recently raised an objection to it on the ground of its interference with respiration; but it is without doubt an important factor in the reduction of the number of cases of colic, that most people in a position to speak with authority agree has taken place during recent years.

SCRATCHES.

Scratches are very common in horses during the winter and spring. Horses with a coarse, lymphatic constitution have a natural tendency or predisposition to the disease. The more common exciting causes are, close, damp or filthy stables; standing or working in the mud, or filth of the stable or yard; driving in the mud, especially when freezing, and then allowing the mud to remain on the legs after the horse has gone to the stable; standing in cold drafts of air; washing the legs with caustic soaps or other irritants, and overfeeding on grain or feeding unwholesome fodder of any kind, which tends to derange the urinary system. In treatment, the first step is to avoid, as far as possible, the causes that develop or aggravate the disease. The Rural New Yorker advises by way of treatment that whenever the horse is used in the wet or mud, the legs should be rubbed dry as soon as placed in the stable. Do not wash the legs when dry, but clean them by brushing or dry rubbing. In fact, avoid wetting them whenever possible. Daily exercise is very desirable.

If the horse is in good condition, give one ounce each best aloes and ginger in ball or drench on the bowels. Follow with a laxative diet, to consist largely of bran mash, scalded oats, boiled flax seed or oil meal or green food sufficient to keep the bowels moving freely. Repeat the dose of aloes in a week if not freely purged by the first. If the horse is weak or debilitated, the aloes should be omitted and the bowels controlled by a laxative, but nutritious diet. Pint doses of raw linseed oil might be given to advantage. In obstinate cases of this kind, one of the best remedies is the iodide of potassium. The iodide should be given in dram doses in the feed or drinking water twice daily, and continued for ten days to two weeks; then omit for a week and repeat as before, if necessary. Give the horse a pinch of salt daily, or preferably keep salt before the horse in a small box or a compartment of the feed trough, where he can eat it at his pleasure. Locally, the benzoated oxide of zinc ointment is one of the best applications for the cracked heels. First dry the legs if wet, and then rub the ointment well in night and morning, breaking off and removing the crusts with the hand, as fast as softened with the ointment. For the ordinary mild or chronic cases of scratches, a laxative diet followed by a little extra care of the legs and the use of the ointment, is the only treatment required.

Nothing equal to GERMAN FEAT Moss for horse bedding. Healthy and economical and widely used. C. B. Barrett, Importer, 45 No. Market street.

C. A. PARKER's cheap substitute for hay is well liked by milk farmers and dairymen. Sample lots of 300 pounds are sold for \$1. It should not be fed alone, but rather used to lengthen out the supply of hay.

THE GRANGE.

Children's Day.

In order to increase the interest in rural life among the children of the state, the New Hampshire Grange has set apart a "Children's Day," the first observation of which will occur Saturday, June 12.

The Massachusetts Grange Fair offers a list of special premiums to be conferred by members of the Order who are residents of that state.

Weather and Crops.

FOR WEEK ENDING MAY 17.

MAINE.

In the northeastern part of the state it is said to be the coldest and most backward spring for several years past. Very little sowing and planting has been done. Some plowing has been done and potatoes planted, but not much aside from this. Grass looks well and pastures starting well. Apples promise a light crop compared with last year, but the other fruits show signs of being plentiful.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Owing to the heavy rains work has been delayed on most land, but grass has improved and is now coming forward rapidly. The ground is full of water and lowlands are too wet to plow. Very little corn has been planted, but reports indicate that it will be generally planted this week. Pear trees have blossomed freely, and promise a large yield. This cannot be said of apples.

VERMONT.

General and heavy rains fell over this state on the 12th and 13th. At Hartland 2.87 inches fell in two days, at Norwich 3.06, and at Bennington 2.45 in the same time. This favored grass, which is growing rapidly. In extreme northern portions the season is apparently not advanced as in the south, for little has been planted or sown, but the soil is ready for all crops.

MASSACHUSETTS.

Farm work, as far as working soil is concerned, has been almost at a standstill owing to copious rains, but these have produced a remarkable growth of grass and tree foliage. Most fruits are blooming very full, wild berries in particular. Strawberries promise to yield a full crop. Currants have blossomed fuller than usual, but the currant worm is troublesome. Early corn is being planted. Early potatoes begin to show above the ground in some localities. Rye and oats appear good. Grapes wintered well. Low mowing lands are flooded. The water has been taken off the cranberry bogs and the vines appear remarkably well.

RHODE ISLAND.

The story of abundant rains is repeated for this state, and while the precipitation has been beneficial to growing crops it has hindered farm operations. Warm sunny weather is now required for a good growth of vegetation. The hay crop promises to be far above the average. Some corn has been planted. Fruits are in general looking fine. Much asparagus was cut last week.

CONNECTICUT.

Wet weather has hindered plowing and planting. Low grounds, already wet, were flooded. Pastures and grass are in excellent condition. There will be much clover in all hay this year. Potatoes are mostly all planted; some are up. A great deal of corn has been planted, and more will be this week. Strawberries are in blossom. Tobacco plants were set during the week. There is an abundant bloom on apple trees in southern sections. Complaint is being made of damage done by cut worms in gardens and fields.

J. W. SMITH.

Horseflesh as Human Food.

Horseflesh still appears to hold its own as an article of food with the poorer classes in Belgium. Recent statistics show that in Antwerp alone nearly 4000 horses were slaughtered last year for human consumption, and the number of shops dealing exclusively in horseflesh in the Belgium port exceeds thirty. Over 10,000 horses were imported during the year for conversion into meat, this number being largely in excess of the imports of cattle.

DO YOU PLANT CORN?

Any one who plants and endeavors to raise corn without using the King of the Cornfield, which is a corn planter and fertilizer distributor combined, manufactured by the Whitman Agricultural Works of Auburn, Maine, is taking big risks on not having the best obtainable crop that might be raised. The patentees and manufacturers of this valuable agricultural implement are represented by Messrs. Jos. BRECK & SONS of Boston, the well-known seedmen and proprietors of the large agricultural implement warehouse in this city, who will gladly give to any one full particulars in regard to this unique and perfect working machine. With it can be planted corn, peas, beans and similar seeds. It is so arranged that the fertilizer drops right and left of the seed and mixes with the soil, thus preventing any danger of the seeds being harmed. This is a feature that is not found in any other machine. With this machine one man, with a horse, can plant seven to ten acres a day, and when it is considered that only \$25 is the cost of this valuable implement, it will be readily seen that its price many times over can be saved in a single season.

See our SPECIAL OFFER on the sixth page.



Wild Western Dairying.

The answers quoted below were made by a dairyman in Henry County, Missouri, who had moved there from Rockford, Illinois, and who evidently thought the native Missourians were not quite up to date in matters relating to dairying. As the answers were made some years ago, it is perhaps safe to say a better state of dairying conditions exist in that locality now than, according to the writer's informant, then obtained. Whether the answers were or not overdrawn at the time, they are certainly witty and quite enjoyable reading.

Q. If there are better factories in your section, are they conducted on the cream gathering plan or whole milk system?

A. Cream gathering? No true Missourian can get through the summer without his "bonny clabber" and dead shot whiskey.

Q. It conducted on the cream gathering plan, in what kind of cream raising apparatus do the patrons set their milk?

A. Stone crocks, pans, gourds, buckets, wooden trays, old box legs and hollow logs of small size cut in short lengths with a slab nailed over the bottom.

Q. If conducted on the whole milk system, what kind of apparatus is used for separating the cream from the milk?

A. The whole milk chaps turn over the entire process to the calves.

Q. Are the patrons of cheese and butter factories in your section satisfied with the results obtained, and if not satisfied, what seems to be the cause of dissatisfaction?

A. No, sir! The cream will not furnish enough "buddle" to liquidate the dram item; that is what hurts a Missourian.

Q. Do many people store ice in your section, and is the practice becoming general?

A. We are just beginning to "whoop" up the business big. Most farmers are now storing a sufficiency for summer use.

Q. What kind of butter packages are used for storing and marketing butter?

A. Creameries and farm dairies use the ash firkins. "Moosebaks" from the Osage timbers bring it tied up in a rag and astride old "dobbin" or a mule.

Q. In churning do you practice the granular process?

A. You can't stuff that granulating "biz" down any one from south of Mason and Dixon's line.

Q. If you think of any information not inquired for above regarding dairying in your section or matters pertaining thereto, we will be greatly obliged if you will communicate it to us.

A. I can think of heaps of information, but who is going to pay for the ink and the wear and tear of brains?

Another dairyman in Ford County, Illinois, with a facetious term of mind wrote as follows:—

"The farmers in this section keep cow boarding houses, furnish poor board and lodging and as a natural consequence receive mighty poor pay."

The above was simply a terse way of expressing the conditions of dairying quite common at that time in a good many sections of the country. But it is hoped they are better now, and constantly improving.

F. W. MOSELEY,

Clinton, Iowa.

A Correct Surmise.

A little black-eyed and nimble-tongued Irish street car conductor on a branch of Boston's West End railroad is a source of no end of amusement to the passengers along his route by reason of some of his startling utterances.

One day he came into the car and called out in his peculiarly penetrating voice: "Wan seat on the right! Sit closer on the right, ladies and gentlemen, an' make room for the leddy phwat's standing."

A big early-looking man who was occupying space enough for two said, suddenly,

"We can't sit any closer."

"Can't yee?" retorted the little conductor. "Begorry, you niver want coortin', thin."

It is needless to add that room was made "on the right" for the lady.—Harper's Bazar.

A small experimental factory will shortly be opened in England for the manufacture of one of the constituents of a new food which it is believed will prove of eminent use to the medical profession in dealing with diabetic and obese subjects. The basis of this new food is prepared from separate milk.

—It is said that the working people in Ireland, who live chiefly on the potato, never suffer from gout.

THE WORLD OVER.

The Uruguayan revolution has ended in Government victory.

—Russian influence has compelled Turkey to cease hostilities for the present in Greece.

—Japan threatens to retaliate on our taxing of her handkerchiefs by restricting United States petroleum.

—Advices from Rio Janeiro, Brazil, are that the new extradition treaty with the United States has been signed.

—At the International Arts Exposition at Dresden the American painters, by universal consent, lead all other countries.

—Over ninety earthquake shocks have occurred in South Australia during the past week, and people are living in tents for safety.

—Count Von Frankenberg recently made a violent attack upon American oleomargarine and its makers in the Prussian Diet.

—Advices from Montevideo, Uruguay, are that the insurgents have again defeated the Federal troops under General Muniz, capturing the guns.

—Failures are reported at Buenos Ayres daily. The commercial situation is an extremely difficult one. Locusts are ravaging the interior provinces.

—Prince Bismarck lost twenty pounds in weight during his last illness, but he reviewed a torchlight procession in the open air during the week, though snow was falling.

—The Porte's official reply to the note of the Powers declines to agree to an armistice until the following conditions are accepted: The annexation of Thessaly, an indemnity of £10,000,000 (Turkish) and the abolition of the capitulation.

—Minister Hanotaux, of France, has written to the retiring United States Ambassador, Eustis, thanking him and the United States Embassy for the expression of sympathy with the families of the victims of the Paris Charity Bazaar disaster.

—The Princess of Wales fund, started to provide a dinner or some substantial meal during the week of the jubilee commemoration for the poorest of the London poor, the beggars, outcasts, and tenants of the slums, has received an anonymous contribution of \$125,000. It is widely reported that Mr. Astor is the donor of the \$125,000.

—The Prince and Princess of Wales opened the Yachting and Fisheries Exhibition, London, which has been arranged as one of the features of the queen's jubilee celebration. The exhibition bids fair to be one of the most popular entertainments of the season. Its main object is to show the great changes that have transpired in yacht building since 1837. In order to accomplish this there have been, arranged, several hundred models of yachts which date from the year of the queen's coronation.

Women of New England Farms.

The women are true helpmates. Not only do they do their own work, but they are able and willing to milk the cows, and assist with the hay-getting, and in other ways lend a hand out of doors in emergencies. Some of them even eke out the family income by little ventures of their own, such as raising hens and bees, and gathering and marketing spruce gum, beechnuts and blueberries. There is no servant-girl problem, because there are no servants. When sickness or some other real disability necessitates female help in the household, a neighbor's daughter is called in. She is, of course, regarded, and in every minutest particular treated, as a member of the family; it could not be otherwise. The children are trained to bear their share of the family burden, so far as it can be done without interfering with their schooling, and the very school terms are arranged with a view to conflicting as little as possible with farm work. When the children grow up, many of them go out into the world to seek their fortunes (that, within reasonable limits, is a law of nature), but there is nothing like an exodus of the rising generation, no approach to a depletion. Plenty of ambitious, vigorous young men stay behind to arrange themselves in life as their fathers did before them, chopping in the woods winters, and tilling the few acres they have been able to purchase with their winters' savings, summers. Furthermore, there are plenty of desirable young women happy and proud to cast their lots in with the young men and do their share of the drudgery necessary to establishing a home. Thus the new farms are cleared out of the woodland and the old farms are kept up.—Alvan F. Sanborn in the May Atlantic.

ONE hundred women of the Warren Avenue Congregational Church of Chicago have just earned \$1 each for the church. At a meeting the other evening each one told what she did. One shaved her husband; another got five cents whenever she got up before her husband; another offered to wash for her son, and got a dollar for letting the shirts alone; another assessed her husband \$1 for a shine. Still another got the money by not singing a song. One woman starved her husband till he paid up.

—The coldest place in the United States in winter is St. Vincent, Minn., Chief Moore, of the Weather Bureau, says. There the thermometer often shows 45 degrees below zero.

BITS OF FUN.

Mr. Cawker (after his wife had read several pages): Is there any news in your mother's letter, dear? Mrs. Cawker: I haven't come to the postscript yet.—Truth.

Mrs. Grubbs: Have you any more sugar like the last ye sent me? Grocer (briskly): Yes madam, plenty of it. How much do you want? Mrs. Grubbs: Don't want any!

Johnny: Please pa, let me have a quarter to give to a poor lame man? Pa: Who is the poor lame man, Johnny? Johnny: Er—Well pa, he's the ticket seller at the circus.

A boy was creeping through a hole in the orchard fence in order to get apples. Farmer (inside the fence): Now, my lad, where are you going? "I'm going back!" the lad replied, as he crawled backward into the hole.

Papa: Well, Johnnie, you went to church this morning? Johnnie: Yes, papa. Papa: How did you like the sermon? Johnnie: The beginning was good and the end was good, but there was too much middle to it, papa.

A clergyman was preaching upon the "Parable of the Prodigal Son," and when it came to killing the fatted calf he endeavored to heighten the interest by the following touch: "Not a calf, but the calf; the old familiar calf that had been in the family for years and years."

An English farmer on rent day asked his landlord for timber to build a shed, but was refused. "Then you will give me enough to roof part of the barn?" he asked, and had the same answer. "To make a gate, then," said the farmer. "Yes, I'll give you that." "That is all I want," replied the farmer, "and more than I expected."

Scene: Railway car: Well-dressed traveller begins to whistle, then hum a tune, and finally breaks out with, "I wish I was a daisy, I wish I was a daisy." Disgusted Farmer (also singing): "I wish I was a cow, I wish I was a cow." Traveller: That's funny. Why do you wish you were a cow? Farmer: Oh, if I were a cow and you a daisy, I should lie down and smother you!

She had a French gardener, and one morning his stupidity proved beyond endurance. She told him what she thought of him. "Now, Francois, you can go. I'll not have you another day." He went, crestfallen, to the stables, where he: husband chanced to be. He looked at him thoughtfully for a minute and then said: "Ah! general, I am very sorry for you." "Why, what is the matter with me, Francois?" said the general. "Vel, retorted the departing Francois, "I can go, but you must stay."

MEDICAL.

RADWAY'S READY RELIEF
PAIN CURED IN AN INSTANT.

CURES AND PREVENTS
Coughs, Colds, Sore Throat, Whooping Cough, Pneumonia, Swelling of the Joints, Lumbago, Inflammations, RHEUMATISM, NEURALGIA, Frostitis, Chills, Headache, Toothache, Asthma, DIFFICULT BREATHING.

CRIPPLED BY RHEUMATISM.

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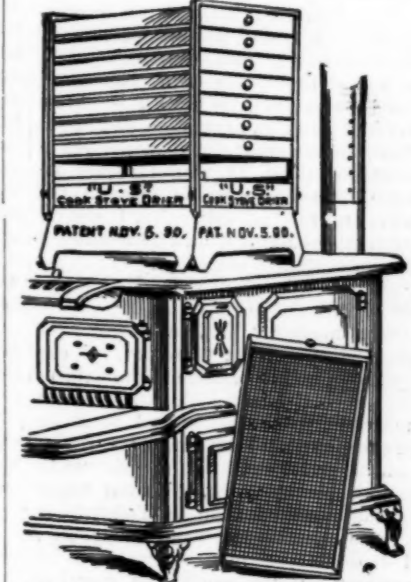
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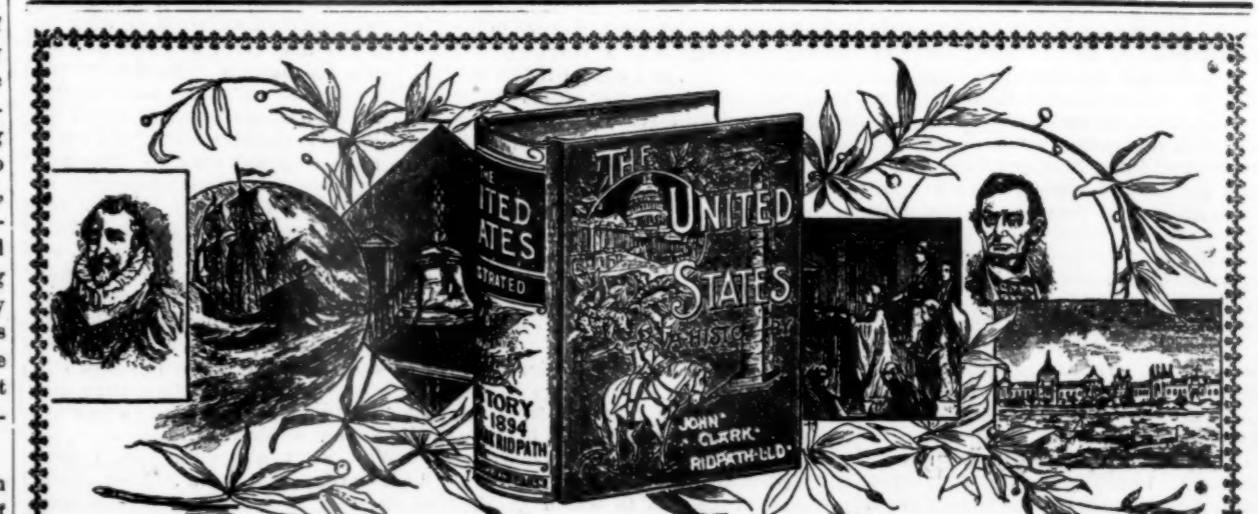
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—A pair of gloves passes through about two hundred hands from the moment that the skin leaves the dressers until the gloves are purchased by the intending wearer.

—The share of land falling to each inhabitant of the globe, in the event of a partition, might be set down at twenty-three and a half acres.



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